THE SATURDAY EVENING POST.



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Original Communications.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post.

To Annette.

"Rural Simplicity."

Canton Lines.

It was at evening time, Annette,
Long, long ago!
That you and I as strangers met,
At first, you know—
You were a bridesmaid, what was I?
Can you forget?
Ah! love at times you used to sigh,
Annette, Annette!

I loved to let, amid the hair,
My fingers stray,—
In golden tresses seemed more fair
Than midst day—
In vain you'd chide, and chide again
At every threat,
I'd kiss your cheek, and then—what then?
Annette, Annette!

And oft' when I would sport and share
With others there,
That wolf, entreating, mournful glance,
I could not bear.
But if I neared thee 'till thine eye
With tears grew wet,
Would I not kiss them off and sigh?
Annette, Annette!

You had an eye so softly blue,
So deep bright,
Its very look would thrill me through
Like starry night.—
But when, your head upon my breast,
Our hushed lips met,—
Oh! can that deep glance be erpress'd?
Antonette! Annette!

And then your heart would flutter, love,
A frightened bird;
And long we'd sit, nor think, nor move,
Not breathe a word.
The rapture of those midday hours
Can we forget?
Ah! was there ever love like ours?
Annette! Annette!

Philadelphia, Feb. 13, 1841.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post

Niagara.

A Story of Fashionable Life.

BY T. HAMILTON.

Ely. "When will the fast come again?"

Anon, sir, and "—*Passage of the Straw.*

"Well, I do say," said a puzzy elderly gentleman, puffing and blowing as he mounted the steps at Niagara, "if this is what they call travelling, then I'd sooner stay at home. Here's my wife and three daughters, have been plaguing the life out of me these two years to come to Niagara, and now when we're here, they can't stay quietly at the hotel, but must be dragging me about, to see this, and to see that, 'till I'm almost worked to death," and pausing upon the landing, he wiped his heated face with his handkerchief, looking down the hill at his spouse and her three daughters, toiling unaided up from below.

"Oh! pa," said his youngest child, as she reached the landing, "why did you leave us to climb up that long flight of steps alone. I'm almost tired out, and I'm sure ma looks quite faint."

"Can't help it—people that will go travelling must expect to get tired," said Mr. Bowen soapishly, wiping his face as assiduously as ever.

"Oh! ma—dear—John," gasped his partner, as she in turn arrived at the landing, "lend me your arm, or—I—shall die."

"Die at this place ma'am! Die at Niagara! Die after spending five hundred dollars!"

"Pray, Miss Ellen," said a young man, who met the group on his descent at this moment, "let me assist you up—recollect how often I have been down—will you accept my arm?"

The beautiful girl blushed—for Ellen Bowen was really beautiful—and perceiving that her father had at length undertaken to assist her mother, she took the proffered aid of Edward Seymour, her elder sisters meanwhile finding beaux, in the two companions of the young lawyer.

"It is a trite question, Miss Bowen," said Seymour, "but I cannot resist asking you how you like the falls—do they equal your expectations?"

The young barrister would scarcely have put such a question to Ellen's parents, or to either of her sisters, but, in the little conversation he had enjoyed with her, since the arrival of the Bowens at the falls, he had perceived in her remarks the evidence of a refined, and highly imaginative mind.

"Oh! yes! they far surpass my expectations," said Ellen, coloring the next breath, at her own enthusiasm. "There is a sublimity about them I cannot describe: they create an awe which deprives one of words: I could *feel* their grandeur and their majesty forever, but I could never give expression to the sentiments they create in one's bosom."

"You are right. They fill one, like eternity, with unutterable awe. They kindle up all the poetry of one's heart, but they overpower one at the same time. For my part, were I a poet, I could look at Niagara forever, but yet would always find it impossible to write upon it."

"And why?"

"Because I could never satisfy myself with what I had written. Nothing but inspiration," said Seymour, enthusiastically, "could do justice to so sublime a wonder."

"That agrees with what I have been thinking the whole morning. I used to admire one or two pieces written on Niagara, but since I have seen the falls, they all appear tame."

"And well may they; for next to the presence of the great I AM himself, what is so awful as this eternal cataract? Think only for what countless ages it has thundered its hallelujah! How many races have grand and died beside it since it first hurled its cream of waters into the abyss below, shaking the earth, and filling Heaven with its might; and yet it still pours forth its eternal incense, fit companion for the cherubims who continually chant beside the throne of God!"

There was something in such rapt expressions which roused an echo in Ellen's bosom; and as she looked into the kindling eye of the speaker, she experienced an emotion as yet unknown to her heart.

Their conversation, however, was brought to an end by the arrival of the party at the hotel, where the gentlemen and ladies separated to dress for dinner.

There was to be a ball that evening, and consequently the ladies generally retired to their rooms immediately after the meal. Ellen saw nothing therefore of Seymour, though she longed for a renewal of the conversation of the morning.

The ball-room was crowded to excess,—for besides the regular boarders at the hotels, there were numerous guests from the families of the vicinity, as well as several British officers from the neighboring Canadian shore. Ellen's beauty attracted general admiration.

Among those who paid her the most marked attentions, and who in fact had done so since her arrival, were Edward Seymour, and Sir Theodore Phipps. The former had nothing to recommend him, but his talent and appearance; the latter had a train of servants, and drove splendid bays. Yet though envied the attentions of her titled admirer by all, Ellen would willingly have turned from his flattery to listen to the deep voice of Seymour, breathing the lofty aspirations, beneath which every chord of her heart trembled in sympathy. The baronet, however, was assiduous; he even forced himself upon Ellen despite her manifest repugnance to him; her mother, moreover, insisted again and again that she should dance another set with *Sir* Theodore; until at length Seymour, either blinded to the truth, or indignant at Mrs. Bowen's conduct, withdrew from Ellen's side, nor did he rejoin it during the rest of the evening.

The congratulations which were showered upon Ellen, by her mother and eldest sister, when they had all retired to their parlor after the ball, were nearly endless. Her second sister, Julia, however, having not yet lost all hope of an eligible match, was silent and sullen. At length she gave vent to her spleen.

"Really there is nothing to admire so much in Sir Theodore," said she, with a toss of the head, "to be sure he calls himself an English nobleman, but who knows that he is not an impostor?"

"An impostore," said Mrs. Bowen, "why Julia, how can you go on in such a way? You're envious, child, or you wouldn't talk so. No, Sir Theodore, is a real nobleman, and has his seat, I'll venture to say, in the House of Lords with the best of them. An impostore! *fy*—fy on you Julia."

The haughty daughter, however, only answered by a curl of her lip, as if in scorn of her mother's ignorance; but the eldest sister now took up the conversation.

"For my part," she said, "I'm clear Sir Theodore is serious; and I'm glad Ellen will form such an alliance. How it will pique the Misses de Sibra!"

"But, sister," said Ellen, for the first time attering a word, "I am not yet married to the proud foolish Englishman. Nor do you," she added, finally putting her arm round the neck of her mother, for with all her petty vanity, her parent had generally a kind heart, and Ellen loved her devotedly, "dear mamma, wish me, I am sure, to marry him," and she kissed her mother's cheek.

Now, if Mrs. Bowen disliked anything, it was to be thwarted in her darling wish of elevating her daughters by marriage. How completely she was interested in the Baronet's success, the reader has seen from her conduct at the ball.—She replied, therefore, with unusual harshness.

"You astonish me, child—you do. What! not marry a nobleman! There now, you needn't fondle on me, for I saw who *you* was making love to to-night—"

"Mamma, dear mamma!" said Ellen imploringly, and then burst into tears.

"Well, I do say!" ejaculated the eldest sister.

"Who ever saw the like!" responded the second one, forgetting her pique in the revenge she was thus enabled to take on Ellen.

"Oh! it won't do for you to cry," said her mother, thus commenced by the elder sisters, and steeled on this occasion to her daughter's feelings, "for I've seen it all, and know best what's good for you. You" she added, warming into a passion as she proceeded, "marry Sir Theodore you shall, and that's too positive."

"But Sir Theodore has not yet even proposed," said Mr. Bowen, appearing suddenly to awake from the dose in which he had been seemingly indulging himself, as he lay extended upon the sofa, "and I don't see the use of worrying Elly until he does so. Mind daughter," said he, shaking his head reprovingly at the implering, yet thankful look of the poor girl, "I don't mean to say your mother won't be right if Sir Theodore should propose, for though I don't, like a true American, care a cumarchee for a Baronet, as a son-in-law, and though I know every Englishman to be a haughty fool, ahem! yet money isn't to be laughed at when it comes in heaps, and a guinea is at any time better to live upon than love. But we've talked the matter over enough to-night, and you've almost worried me into a fit of the gout. If I'd stand at home now, like a sensible man, we'd none of us have had any of this fuss. But people that will travel must expect to get into trouble."

This decided expression of opinion silenced the group. Ellen was grateful; the sisters were sullen; and Mrs. Bowen flung herself out of the room. But the pillow of our heroine, was, that night, wet with some of the bitterest tears she had ever shed.

The next day, on descending to the breakfast room, the first person that met the eye of Ellen, was Seymour, conversing gaily with one of the prettiest girls of the company, who had been his partner during the latter part of the preceding evening. He bowed with some haughtiness to Ellen, and continued his conversation without interruption. Poor Ellen felt a strange pang shoot through her heart, at the coldness of the only one of the company for whose esteem she had cared. But, returning the salutation with equal pride, she moved to a neighboring seat, and was soon, to all appearance, deeply engaged in conversation with several gentlemen, who, the instant she made her appearance, crowded around her.

An excursion had been planned that day, for the purpose of visiting a point some miles below the falls, from which they might be seen to peculiar advantage, and both Seymour, and Sir Theodore, signified their intention of joining the party.

It was a beautiful day, and the whole landscape was smiling beneath an unclouded sun, as the party pursued its way to the point of destination. Mounted on horseback Sir Theodore constantly maintained his place by the side of Ellen, attempting to amuse her by his conversation, made up of pretended descriptions of noble life, and stale anecdotes without point. Hurt as she felt at Seymour, she could not avoid contrasting him favorably with her assiduous suitor, nor prevent herself from glancing impatiently, now and then, in the direction of the young lawyer, who was riding, in the midst of a gay party, of which he appeared to be the life. Perhaps the pang that shot through her bosom at his avoidance of her society, did more towards acquainting her with her own feelings, than a month of the usual intercourse of visitors at the Falls would have done.

At length the party arrived at the end of their journey, and after viewing the Falls, dispersed themselves into groups, and countered about preparatory to returning. Ellen was soon surrounded by a numerous suite of gentlemen, for she was unquestionably the belle of the party. But still Seymour avoided her group, except occasionally. He seemed to be chained to the side of the beautiful Bostonian, to whom he had been so assiduous on the preceding evening, and who was evidently flattered—as who would not be!—at his attentions. Ellen felt again that pang at her bosom, but suppressing her emotion by such an effort as woman only can command, she launched out into the gayest conversation, nor was it long before she had enchained those suitors by her wit, whom, at first, she had attracted by her beauty. Yet even then she could not regard her titled admirer with any sentiment except disgust. She knew that, but for him, Seymour would now be at her side. But she could not avoid reproaching him for deserting her, when neither by word nor action had she herself slighted him, whatever others might have done.

What a strange thing is the heart! It suffers itself often to become inextricably involved in the meshes of that master passion, love, long before it discovers to its owner how utterly its liberty is gone. And then, when the victim would endeavor to regain its freedom, how suicidly, and slowly, and surely it resists every attempt, and perhaps ultimately triumphs. Nothing can be more profound than the deception it often practises upon its victims. It suffers them to love, yet persuades them they are still free. A word, a look, a gesture will be treasured up in the memory, and this too will sometimes, day by day, and week by week, and yet the victim is made to believe that there is nothing in it but friendship, until some sudden remark, some unexpected train of events, brings on the denouement, and the victim discovers at once its deception, and its love.

Meantime, the party had set forth in its return, and Ellen was again surrounded by a troop of admirers on horseback. Seymour still, however, kept aloof, until an incident occurred, which, in a few rapid moments, altered the whole face of affairs.

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The party had not proceeded far, when they passed near some workmen engaged in quarrying stone, and just as Ellen and her group approached, an explosion took place in a dangerous proximity to the riders. The consequence was, for the moment, a general consternation. Several of the horses began to rear frightfully, and the one on which Ellen sat, after plunging for a few seconds, took the bit in his mouth, and darted furiously ahead.

The alarm now became universal, and the screams of the ladies, and the shouts of the male portion of the company only served to increase the speed of the frightened steed. Meantime none knew what to do. The terrified animal was careering toward the river's side, at that point terminating in an abrupt precipice, and though every one cried out to save her, none made the attempt. Ellen, however, still kept her seat firmly, though the imploring look that she cast backward upon the company betrayed her conscious sense of her peril. But at this instant Seymour, who had been some distance behind, perceiving her danger, instead of calling to others as the rest were doing, gave spurs to his horse, and dashed in pursuit of Ellen.

For a few minutes the pace at which they went was tremendous. Nothing stayed their progress. Now crashing among the forest trees, and now leaping over seemingly impassable barriers they soon gained the precipitous banks of the river. They were yet within a few paces of it when Seymour, perceiving the imminency of Ellen's danger, shouted,

"To the right! to the right!"

Almost mechanically the fair girl made a sudden jerk at the reins, and succeeded in partially altering the course of the affrighted animal, so that instead of plunging over the precipice, he ran for a few paces almost parallel with, but in fearful proximity to it. The momentary delay of the reins saved Ellen's *life*. A few feet further on the precipice took a turn, and the maddened animal was now galloping right on to the abyss; but before it could reach the edge, Seymour overtook Ellen, and with consummate dexterity, catching the rein of her steed, threw it, as a powerful effort, back on its haunches. The second of relief was enough for Ellen, with admirable presence of mind to spring from her seat. For an instant longer Seymour endeavored to restrain the frightened animal, but it plunged so dangerously, that his own steed, though under the most complete training, began to grow infected, and he was forced, from regard to his own safety, to let go the rein of the snorting steed. With one plunge it sprang forward, and almost as rapidly as the eye could follow it, went crashing over the precipice, falling a mangled mass of flesh and bones, upon the jagged rocks below.

Without pausing to look after the fate of the terrified animal, Seymour hastened to the relief of Ellen, who, although maintaining her presence of mind up to the moment of her rescue, had fainted away the very instant that she touched the ground. Throwing the bridle over his panting steed, her lover—for we must now call him such—raised her in his arms, and scarcely knowing what to do, threw off her bonnet, letting those rich, luxuriant curls, on which so often he had gazed in delight, fall in many tresses upon the breast. As he gazed on her inanimate face, and felt her form reposing in his arms, he could no longer restrain his long concealed passion, but kissing her snowy brow, he said,

"Ellen, dear Ellen—awake."

As if aroused by his impassioned words, the maiden slowly opened her eyes, and gazed a moment enquiringly around; but when she recognised, in the one who bent over her, the person of Edward Seymour, she blushed and would have risen, if her strength had not proved too little for the endeavor.

"Ellen—Miss Bowen—forgive me," said Seymour, perceiving her design, and flinging she resumed his words.

"Forgive you!—oh! how can I sufficiently thank you!" eagerly said the artless girl. The words, the tone, but more than all, the look, filled the bosom of her lover with tumultuous joy. His voice was eager and hurried as he replied,

"You have nothing for which to thank me!" and perceiving that the color mounted into Ellen's cheek, and her bosom heaved, while her eyes fell to the ground, he continued, "I—I only ought to be grateful for having saved so pure a being as you." The eyes of Ellen still sought the ground, and her form trembled, as Seymour emboldened by her emotion, poured forth, in a few burning words, the tale of his love. And when he had done, and Ellen, unable from her agitation to reply, sank unresisting upon that bosom, to which she was so gently drawn, could any, even the most selfish and calculating, blame her for thus blessing so pure a suit as that of Edward Seymour.

But the *tete-a-tete* of the lovers was soon interrupted, by the arrival of the remainder of the company; and after a thousand felicitations on her escape, Ellen was provided with a seat in one of the carriages, and the whole party returned to the hotel.

"God be praised, my dear girl," said Mr. Bowen, clasping Ellen to his heart, and moved for a moment out of his usual cynical mode of expression, by the knowledge of her danger and escape, "you have had a narrow escape. But then people that will travel, must expect to get into scrapes."

The joy of the mother we will not relate.—With all her faults, Mr. Bowen loved her daughter ardently, and, for once, she was led by her gratitude to believe, that Edward Seymour might be as much of a gentleman, as Sir Theodore Phipps.

The very next day two sturdy looking men alighted at the door of the hotel, and, after making sundry enquiries after the pretended baronet, proceeded to arrest Sir Theodore, on his return from a ride, as a notorious forger, lately escaped from a southern penitentiary. He departed that night hand-cuffed, and under the charge of the two police officers.

The career of the *parvenu* baronet being thus cut short, even the sisters of Ellen began to look upon Seymour with more lenity, nor was this good feeling at all lessened, when an elderly gentleman appeared on the succeeding morning, who greeted Seymour as his nephew, and whom the keeper of the hotel recognised as the rich Judge Townsend of———county. Before noon it was whispered on his authority, that the apparently penniless lawyer was not only the heir of the new comer, but the possessor of a handsome fortune already. It was confirmed before evening by the intelligence that he had proposed for and been accepted by Ellen.

"Well," said Mr. Bowen on that occasion, "you say you concealed your wealth in order to be loved for yourself alone. All very good, very good, no doubt, especially for a novel; but confoundedly like nonsense, lugging your pardon, my friend, in real life. Money is money, and men without it don't cut half such a figure as men with it. But every one to his taste. I owe you a thousand thanks for saving Ellen,—take her—and God bless you both."

"Well for my part," said Mrs. Bowen, when *tete a tete* with her husband, "its a capital match. You see now what we're gained by coming to Niagara. Its all through me Ellen's got so nicely fixed."

"Pshaw! you'd have married her to that rascal of a counterfeiter if he hadn't been found out, and a pretty business you'd have made of it. But people that will travel must expect to get into scrapes."

New York, Feb. 1841.

Melodie.

I met one, in my girlish heart,
A creature of kind nature—
Her cottage bonnet filled with flowers,
Hung swinging on her arm:
Her voice was sweet as the voice of love,
And her teeth were pure as pearls,
While her forehead was as the sunny dove,
In a nest of hair brown curls.
She was a thing unknown to fame—
Melodie was her strange sweet name

I never saw an eye so bright,
And yet so soft as hers;
It sometimes ope'ns its liquid light,
And sometimes veils it in tears;
It seemed a beauty set apart
For softness and for sighs;
But oh! Melodie's melting heart
Was better than her eyes.
For they were only formed to spread
The softness from her spirit shed

I've gazed on many a brighter face,
But ne'er on one for years
Where beauty left so soft a trace
As it had left on hers
But who can paint the spell that wore
A brightness round the whole?
'Twould take an angel from above
To paint its immortal soul—
To trace the light, the inborn grace,
The spirit-beaming o'er her face.

Her bosom was a soft retreat,
For love, and love alone,
And yet her heart had never been
To love's delicious tone;
It dwelt within its cavie free
From tender thoughts like these,
Waiting the little deity,
As the blossom waits the breeze.
Before it throws its leaves apart
And trembles like the love touched heart.

She was a creature strange as fair,
First mournful and then wild
Now laughing in the clear bright air,
As merry as a child:
Then melting down as soft as even,
Beneath some new control,
She'd throw her bright eyes to heaven,
And sing with all her soul,
In tones as rich as some young bird's,
Warbling her own delightful words.

Melodie—oh how soft thy dactsl!
How gentle and how sweet!
Thy song enchained a thousand hearts
And drew them to thy feet:
And as thy bright lips sung, they caught
Its beautiful a ray,
That, as I gazed, I almost thought
The spirit of the lay
Had left while melting on the air,
Its sweet expression painted there.

Sweet vision of that starry even!
Thy virgin beauty yet
Is in my spirit set,
It is a something shrined apart—
A light from heavenly shed,
To live until this tender heart
Ceases to beat indeed.
Reminding me of brighter hours,
Of summer eves and summer flowers.

ORELIA.

From the Mirror.

St. Valentine's Day.

Of Saint Valentine, so celebrated among young persons, little is known, except that he was a priest of Rome, and martyred there about the year two hundred and seventy.

It was a custom with the ancient Roman youth to draw the names of girls in honor of their god Lupercus Juno on the fifteenth of February, in exchange for which certain Roman catholic pastors substituted the names of saints in billets given the day before, namely on the fourteenth of February.

Where are the postman be, I say?
He ought to be on such a day!
Of all days in the year, you know,
It's monstrous rude to be so slow.
The fellow's no exceeding stupid—
Hark!—there he is!—oh! the dear Cupid!

Two hundred thousand letters beyond the usual daily average annually pass through the two-penny post-office in London on St. Valentine's day.—"Two hundred thousand twopences," said an old gentleman as he read this in a March newspaper, "are four hundred thousand pence,"—and he was going to cast up the amount—"Why, papa," said his daughter, "that's just the number of young folks there must be in love with each other—that's the way to reckon." "Ah, my child, that's not the way to reckon; you have taken something into the account that has no business there; all valentine-writers are not in love, nor are all lovers valentine-writers; and remember, my dear girl, that as smiles on the face sometimes conceal cruel dispositions, so there are some who write Valentines, and trifle with hearts for the mere pleasure of inflicting pain. I will show you what I mean," said the old gentleman, and taking a paper from a drawer, he held up the exemplification of a dog playing with a lady's heart, which he had torn in several places.

Just then an unstarried gentleman, "of a certain age," entered the room. On becoming acquainted with the topic, he drew from his pocket a *small packet*, and said, with a merry smile, "Here was my valentine." It contained a rib of some small animal completely enveloped with white satin ribbon, ornamented by a true lover's knot at each end, and another in the middle.—Father and daughter both had a laugh at the "old bachelor," and he laughing with them, put into the young lady's hand the poetical address that accompanied his *rib*:

Go contemplate this lovely sign!
Haste thee away to woman's shrine
And listen to her vows:
No more illusive shades pursue
To happiness this gives the clue,
Make but a prudent choice.

Till Adam had a partner given,
Much as fair Eden bloom'd like heaven,
For bliss was incomplete:
No social friend those joys to share,
Gave the gay scene a radiant air!
She came—true all replete.

And could not genuine Paradise
The most extensive wish suffice
Its gratitude lord possess?
No—not without a kindred mate,
How then in the degen'rate state,
Can man alone be blest?

But now the Muse withdraws her aid
Enough thy folly to upbraid:
Enough to make thee wise
No more of pensive hours complain,
No more, that all life's joys are vain,
If thou this hint despise.

"Well now, this is capital!" exclaimed the laughing lass. "After such a valentine, you must take the hint, my dear sir; it's really a shame that so good-natured a man should remain a bachelor. I recollect, that when I could only just run about, you used to be so kind to me; besides how you dandled and played with me! and since then, how you have read to me and instructed me till I grew up! Such a man is the very man to be married; you are every way domestic, and it's *settled*; you must get married." "What, then, will you have me?" he inquired, with a cheerful laugh. "*I* have you! No!—Why you are too old: but not too old to find a wife: there are many ladies whom we know, of your age, wholly disengaged; but you don't pay them any *particular* attention." Her father interposed; and the gentleman she addressed playfully said, "It is a little hard, indeed, that I should have these fine compliments and severe reproaches at the same time: however," taking her by the hand, "you will understand that it is possible I may have paid *particular* attention to a lady at an age when the affections are warmer; I did; and I reconciled myself to rejection by counting my books and the pleasures of solitude—

Hast thou been ever waking
From slumbers soft and light,
And heard sweet music breaking
The stillness of the night:

When all thy soul was blending
With that delightful strain,
And night her silence lending
To fix every chain?

Then on a sudden passing,
Those strains have ceas'd to play
A painful absence causing
Of bliss that died away!

So from my soul has vanish'd
The dream of youthful days
So Hope and Love are banish'd,
And Truth her power displays.

The origin of so pleasant a day, the first pleasant day in the year, whether its season be regarded, or the mode of its celebration, requires some little investigation.

Attend we upon ELIA. Hark, how triumphantly that noble herald of the college of kindness proclaims the day!

"Hail to thy returning festival, old Bishop Valentine! Great is thy name in the rubric, thou venerable arch-flamen of hymen! Immortal go-between! who, and what manner of person art thou! Art thou but a name, typifying the restless principle which impels poor humans to seek perfection in union? or wert thou indeed a mortal priate, with thy tippet and thy rochet, thy apron on, and decent lawn sleeves! Mysterious personage! like unto thee, assuredly, there is no other mitred father in the calendar.—Thou canonest attended with thousands and ten thousands of little loves, and the air is

Brush'd with the hum of rustling wings.

singing cupids are thy choristers and thy precentors; and instead of the crosier, the mystical arrow is borne before thee.

"In other words, this is the day on which those charming little monsters, yclept valentines, cross and intercross each other at every street and turning. The weary and all-for-quiet two-penny postman sinks beneath a load of delicate embarrassments, not his own. It is scarcely credible to what an extent this opinionated courtship is carried on in this loving town, to the great enrichment of porters, and detriment of lamplighters and bell-wires. In these little items, interpretations as emblem *is no* common as the *heart*,—that little three cornered casement of all our hopes and fears,—the be-stuck and bleeding heart; it is twisted and tortured into more allegories and affectations than an opera-hat. What authority we have in history or mythology for placing the head-quarters and metropolis of god cupid in this anatomical seat rather than in any other, is not very clear: but we have got it, and it will serve as well as any other thing. Else we might easily imagine, upon some other system which might have prevailed for any thing which our pathology knows to the contrary, a lover addressing his mistress, in perfect simplicity of feeling, 'Madam, *my liver* and fortune are entirely at your disposal;' or putting a delicate question, 'Amanda, have you a *midriff* to bestow?' But custom has settled these things, and awarded the seat of sentiment to the aforesaid triangle, while its less fortunate neighbors wait at amused and amicitious distance.

"Not many sounds in life, and I incline all urban and all rural sounds, exceed in interest a *knock at the door*. It 'gives a very echo to the throne where hope is seated.' But its tenure seldom answer to the cheek within. It is so welcome in expectation in the crowd that salutes us, or seems to usher in, a valentine. As the raven himself was hoarse that announced the fatal entrance of Duncan, on the knock of the postman on the day is light, airy, confident, and befitting one that 'bringeth good tidings.' It is less mechanical than on other days; you will say, 'that is not the post, I am sure.' Visions of love, of cupids, of kymosos, and all those delightful, etc.

Bytharne Urban, in 1779, was informed by Kitty Curious, that on St. Valentine's day in that year, at a little obscure village in Kent, she found an odd kind of sport. The girls from five or six to eighteen years old were assembled in a crowd, burning an uncouth effigy, which they called a "holly boy," and which they had stolen from the boys; while in another part of the village the boys were burning what they called an "ivy girl," which they had stolen from the girls. The ceremony of each burning was accompanied by acclamations, hussas, and other noise. Kitty inquired the meaning of this from the oldest people, but she could only learn that it had always been a sport at that season.

On this ancient festival, it was formerly the custom for men to make presents to the women. In Scotland these valentine gifts were reciprocal, as indeed they are still in some parts.

Hurdis calls this

The day feast Valentine.
When maids are brisk and at the break of day
Start up and turn their pillows, curious all
To know what happy swain the fates provide
A mate for life. Then follows thick discharge
Of true love knots and sonnets nicely penned.

St. Valentine is the lover's saint. Not that lovers have more superstition than other people, but their imaginings are more. As it is fabled that Orpheus "played so well he moved old Nick;"

so it is true that love, "cruel tyrant," moves the veriest brute. Its influence renders the coarsest nature somewhat interesting. A being of this kind, so possessed, is almost as agreeable as a parlah cage with an owl inside; you hear its melancholy tee-whit tee-whoo, and wonder how it got there. Its place of settlement becomes a place of sentiment: nobody can liberate the starveling, and it still may there. Its moral notes mean so many calls for pity, which are much abated on the recollection that there are openings enough for its escape. The "tender passion" in the two-mile-an-hour John of an eight-horse wagon puzzles him mightily. He "sighs and drives, sighs and drives, and drives and sighs again," till the approach of this festival enables him to buy "a valentine," with a "halter," and a "couple of hearts" transfixed by an arrow in the form of a weathercock, inscribed,

"I'll be yours, if you'll be mine.
I am your pleasing Valentine."

St. Valentine, be it repeated, is the saint of all true lovers of every degree, and hence the letters missive to the fair, from wooers on this festival, bear his name. "Brand thinks "one of the most elegant *jeux-d'esprits* on this occasion," is one wherein an admirer reminds his mistress of the choice attributed by the legend to the choristers of the air on this day, and inquires of her—

Shall only you and I forbear
To meet and make a happy pair?
Shall we cause delay to live?
This day an age of bliss may give.

But, oh! when I the proffer make,
Still empty you refuse to take;
My heart I dedicate in vain,
The too mean present you disdain.

Yet since the solemn time allows
To choose the object of one vows;
Boldly I dare profess my flame,
Proud to be yours by any name.

A better might have been selected from the "Magazine of Magazines," the "Gentleman's," wherein Mr. Urban has sometimes introduced the admirers of ladies to the admirers of antiquities—under which cities ladies never come. Thence, ever and anon, as from some high barbican or watch-tower old, "songs of loves and maids forsaken" have aroused the contemplation from "facts, fancies and recollections" regarding other times, to lovers "sighing like furnace" in our own. Through Sylvanus, nearly a century ago, there was poured this

INVOCATION OF ST. VALENTINE.

Haste, friendly saint! to my relief,
My heart is stung by love's fell thief!
My eyes I mean it search'd with care,
And found Eliza lurking there.

Away she started from my view,
Yet may be caught, if thou pursue
Nor need I to describe her stave—
The fairest, dearest maid alive!

Seize her—yet tread its nymph divine
With gentle anger, *Valentine*.
Then tell her, she, for what was done,
Must bring my heart, and give her *one*.

From Visits to Remarkable Places.

Stratford-on-Avon.

The House of Shakspeare's First Love.

The country about Stratford is not romantic, but extremely pleasant. The town stands in a fine open valley. The Avon, a considerable stream, winds past it through pleasing meadows. The country is well cultivated, and the view of wooded uplands and more distant ranges of hills, gives spirit to the prospects. The town itself is a good, quiet, country town, of perhaps four or five thousand inhabitants. In Shakspeare's time it could be nothing more than a considerable village; for by the census of 1801 the total of its inhabitants was but 2448. In that day, the houses were, no doubt, built of wood or of framework, such as the dwelling of Shakspeare's parents still remains. Fires appear, by the history of the place, to have been frequent and destructive in the 16th and 17th of Elizabeth, two furious fires occurred, and so reduced the property of the inhabitants as to compel them to petition parliament for a remission of subsidies and taxes, and for a portion of £36,000, which had been granted for the relief of decayed cities and towns. The residence of Shakspeare himself narrowly escaped.

Stratford appears now to live on the fame of Shakspeare. You see the memories of the great native poet wherever you turn. There is the Mulberry-tree Inn; the Imperial Shakspeare Hotel; the Sir John Falstaff; the Royal Shakspeare Theatre: the statue of Shakspeare meets your eye in its niche on the front of the Town-hall. Opposite to that, a large sign informs you that there is kept a collection of the relics of Shakspeare, and not far off you arrive at another sign, conspicuously projecting into the street, on which is proclaimed,—"IN THIS HOUSE THE IMMORTAL BARD WAS BORN." The people seem all alive to the honor of their town having produced Shakspeare. The tailor will descend from his shop-board, or the cobbler start up from his stall, and volunteer to guide you to the points connected with the history of the great poet. A poor shoemaker, on my asking at his door the nearest way to the church containing Shakspeare's tomb, immediately rose up and began to put on his coat. I said, "No, my friend, I do not want you to put yourself to that trouble; go on with your work—I only want you to say whether this way be the most direct." "Since you, sir," said the man, taking up his hat, "I don't want any thing for shewing a gentleman the way to Shakspeare's tomb; it is a pleasure to me. I am fond on't; and a walk, now and then, does me good." The old man bustled along, holding forth with enthusiasm in the praise of Shakspeare, and coming up to the sexton's house, and knocking.—"There," said he, "I have saved you two minutes' walk;—don't forget to look at old Johnny Combe;" and was turning off highly pleased that he had done something to the honor of Shakspeare. That he, like other men, had fallen into errors, he was the first most earnestly and eloquently to avow; but where was the use, after having won the fame that he

That I have treasured home with unknown minds
And given to them your own dear-purchased sight;
That I have listened and to all the winds,
Which should transport me farthest from your sight
Book forth my wilderness and sweet decay;
And on your grave with secret sorrow drop
Flowers which my hand only from your tears can raise:
All these and worse than these too late you know
Alone to my remembrance I have sworn
Which like a withering poison, I will drink
Poisons of synod "gainst my strong infection.
No bitterness that I will bitter think,
No inspiite penance to convert conviction.
Pity me then, dear friend, and I assure ye
Even that your pity will be worn out too.

In these contrite vo we have not only the most touching confession of his errors, but some clue afforded to that neglect and contempt of his dramatic works which we have already noticed. He clearly regarded his profession of an actor as a degradation, as no doubt it was considered in the eye of those times. He probably regarded his dramas as mere compositions written to advance his fortune, and as standing testimonies to that mode of life which he regarded with aversion. This, it is probable, was the cause why he so entirely neglected them, and turned, as it were, his very thoughts from them, to reminding him of many things, during the period of their production, which he would fain forget for ever. The very next sonnet, and the only one which I shall have indulge myself in transcribing, must strongly expresse this feeling, and the formation of that resolution to which he so inflexibly adhered to the day of his death.

Your love and pity doth the impression fill,
Which vulgar scandal stamped upon her brow
For nor since can I who write her vow
Nor for myself any good allow?
For are all the world, and I must strive
To know my shames and prisons from your tongue;
None else to me, nor I to none alive
That my steeled sense or changes right or wrong
In my bosom's poise can injure me or you,
To urnie, and to flatterer stopped are.
Mark! how with my neglect I do dispise —
You see I care nor world nor fame nor glass
That all the world besides methinks they are dead.

Impressed with the feelings and the history conveyed in these sonnets, I must confess that there was no spot connected with Shakspeare at Stratford that so strongly interested me as Shottery, the little rustic village where Ann Hathaway was born, and where Shakspeare wooed, and whereas he married her. The house in which he was born is turned into a butcher's shop; his birth stone was a mere accident, and the accidents of time have not added to the intrinsic interest of the place; the house which he built or imparted for himself, and in which he spent the last years of his life, was pulled down, and dispersed piece-meal by the infamous parson Gastrell, who thus "doomed himself to eternal fame" more thoroughly than the fool who fired the Temple of Diana; but the birth-place and the marriage-place of Ann Hathaway, is just as it was; and, excepting the tombs of Shakspeare and herself, the only authentic and unchanged traces of their existence here. I therefore hastened away to Shottry the very first moment that I could get out of the inn. It is but a short walk to it across some pleasant meadows, and I pleased myself with thinking as I strode along, with what delight Shakspeare in his youth trod the same path on his way to see his fair Ann Hathaway: and how often, in his latter years, when he had renounced public life, and she was his "all-the-world," they might, led by the sweet recollections of the past, often stroll that way together, and perhaps visit some of their kindred under the same rustic roof.

The village is a real rustic village indeed, consisting of a few farm-houses, and of half-timbered cottages of the most primitive construction, standing apart, one from the other, in their old gardens and orchards. Nothing can exceed the simplicity and quiet of this rustic border. It is the best ideal of Goldsmith's Auburn. The village public-house is the "Shakspeare tavern," a mere cottage like the rest. No modern innovations, no improvements, seem to have come hither to disturb the image of the past times. The cottages stand apart from each other, in their gardens and orchard-croftes, and are just what the poets delight to describe. The country around is pleasant, though not very striking. Its great charm is its perfect rurality. Ann Hathaway's cottage stands at the father end of this scattered and secluded hamlet, at the foot of pleasant uplands, and from its rustic casements you catch glimpses of the fine breezy ranges of the Ilmington and Meon hills, some miles southward; and of Stratford church spire eastward peeping over its trees.

The cottage is a long tenement of the most primitive character; of timber framing, filled up with brick and plaster-work. Its doors are gray with age, and have the old-fashioned wooden latches, with a bit of wood sushed on the outside of the door to take hold of while you pull the string; just such a latch as, no doubt, was on the door of Little Red Riding-Hood's grandmother, when the wolf said to the little girl, "pull the string, and you'll get in."

The antiquity of the house is testified by the heads of the wooden pins which fasten the framing, standing up some inches from the walls according to the rude fashion of the age, never having been cut off. The end of the cottage comes to the village road; and the side which looks into the orchard is covered with vines and roses, and rosemary. The orchard is a spot all knolls and hollows, where you might imagine the poet, when he came here a-wooing, or in the after days of his renown, when he came hither to see his wife's family, and to indulge in day-dreams of the past, to be represents the king of Denmark

—Sleeping within mine orchard.
My custom always of the afternoon—

lying on the mossy turf, and enjoying the pleasant sunshine, and the flickering shadows of the old apple-trees. The orchard extends up the slope a good way; then you come to the cottage garden, and then to another orchard. You walk up a little narrow path between hedges of box, and among long grass. All the homely herbs and flowers which grew about the real old-English cottage, and which Shakspeare delighted to introduce into his poetry—the rosemary, columbine, honeysuckle, marigold, mint, thyme, rue, sage, etc. greeting your eye as you proceed.

The commentators on Shakspeare have puzzled themselves wonderfully about some of the plainest passages of his text, and about many more than the difficulty of the dictionary. In the Midsummer Night's Dream, Titania tells the fairies to be kind to Bottom:

Be kind and courteous to this gentleman;
Hop in his walks and gambol in his eyes;
Feed him with apricocks and dewberries,
With purple grapes, green figs, and mulberries;
The honey-bags steal from the humble-bees,

These seem to be rather more than the ordinary fare of his host a world of trouble. As opposites, grapes, and figs are very good things, they could not being their fancies to believe that the fairies would find British or Anglo last dainty, even though he yearned longingly after good corn and a bundle of hay. All kinds of fruits were run over in the scale of delicacies, and not finding any of the finer sorts which ever bore the name of dewberry, they at last angrily concluded that it must be a gooseberry, because the gooseberry is only once mentioned as a gooseberry in all his dramas. A wise conclusion! What a pity that these laborious and ingenious commentators could but stop occasionally out of their studies, and go into Shakspeare's own neighborhood, and hear the peasantry their talk. They would not only have long ago discovered what a dewberry is, but might have many others and proverb, that would have thrown much light on the text of Shakspeare, than will ever stream in through a library window in half a century. A dewberry is a species of blackberry, but of a larger grain, of a finer acid, and having upon it a purple bloom like the violet plum. It is a fruit well known by that name to botanists (rubus caesius;) and by that name it has always been well known by the common people in the midland counties. As I walked round the orchard of Ann Hathaway, I was quite amazed to see it growing plentifully on the banks; and taking up a sprig of it with some berries on it, I asked almost every countryman and country woman whom I met during the day, what they called that fruit. In every instance, they at once replied, "the dewberry." While I was in that neighborhood I repeatedly asked the peasantry if they knew such a thing as a dewberry. In every case they replied, "No sure, it is like blackberry, only its grains are larger, and it is more like a mulberry." A very good description. "You," said others, "it grows low on the banks; it grows plentifully all about this country." So much for all the critical nonsense about the dewberry.

I could not avoid noticing many such little touches of natural imagery with which Shakspeare has enriched the pastoral portion of his text, as I strolled about this garden and orchard. In the Midsummer Night's Dream, Act iv. Shakspeare says,

The female ivy so
Enrings the barky fingers of the elm.

Why the barky fingers of the elm? Because the young shoots of the elm and those of the maple cover themselves with a singular corky bark, which rises in longitudinal ridges, of frequently more than a quarter of an inch high, and presenting a very singular appearance. It is a curious fact that the elm is the great natural growth of the country about Stratford, and must have been particularly familiar to Shakspeare's eye, and in this very orchard he must have seen plenty of the very images he has used. I pleased myself with imagining the quiet happiness which he had enjoyed with his Ann Hathaway in this very spot, while those rural images and happy illustrations silently flowed into his mind from the things around him. There was an old arbour of box, the trees of which had grown high and wild, having a whole wilderness of periwinkle at their foot; and upon the grassen end of a shed-looking part of the cottage, grew a honeysuckle, which seemed as though it might have grown in the very days of Shakspeare, for it had all the character of a very old tree; little of it showing any life, and its lark hanging from its stem in filaments of more than a foot long, like the tatters and beard of an ancient beggar. At the door looking into this orchard is a sort of raised platform up three or four steps with a seat upon it, so that the cottagers might sit and enjoy at once the breeze and the prospect of the orchard and fields beyond. There is a passage right through the house, with a very old high-backed bench of oak in it, said to have been there in Shakspeare's time, and old enough to have been there long before. The whole of the interior is equally simple and rustic. I have been more particular in speaking of this place, because perhaps at the very moment I write those remarks this interesting dwelling may be destroyed, and all that I have been describing have given way to the ravages of modern change. The place is sold, and perhaps the cottage of Ann Hathaway is now no more. A Mr. Barns, a farmer of the neighboring hamlet of Luddington, has bought the whole property for £300; and talks of pulling down the house at spring. He has already pulled down some of the neighboring cottages, and built up a row of red staring ones in their places; and already he has made an entrance gap into Ann Hathaway's orchard! The Taylors, the old proprietors, who have lived in the cottage for many years, were gone, the very morning I was there, to Stratford, to sign the conveyance.

To be continued.

Galilee.

It was starlight on Galilee. The placid lake lay at the foot, slumbering as calmly as an infant, with the wooded shores, and tall cliffs around, reflected darkly in its surface. Scarcely a breath disturbed the quiet air. Occasionally a ripple would break on the shore with a low, measured harmony, and anon a tiny wave would glisten in the starlight, as a slight breeze ruffled the surface of the lake. The song of the fishermen was hushed; the roar of the vine-dresser had ceased on the shore; the cry of the eagle had died away among the far-off hills, and the silence of midnight, deep, hushed, and awe-inspiring, hung over Galilee.

A thousand years before, and what scenes had that sea beheld! There, had lived Peter and his brethren: there, had our Saviour taught; upon those shores had his miracles been wrought; and on the broad bosom of Gennesaret he had walked a God. What holy memories were hushed in with their little sea! How calm and changeless seemed its quiet depths! A thousand years had passed since then, and the apostles and their children had descended into dust, yet the stars still looked down on that placid lake unchanged, shining the same as they had done for fifty centuries before.

Poetry.

"What is poetry? It is not merely the melody of verse, or the spirit of passion and emotion embodied in verse. It is a revelation from heaven of its own beauty and glory—an atmosphere of heaven breathed down and diffused through our grosser one, by which we become sensible of the strength of joy in the heart, of the moral greatness of our better nature, of the treasures of pure intellect, and the full grandeur and rainbow splendor of human hopes. It is this spirit that is continually lifting us out of the clay of the earth—out of the grossness of our animal condition, to a perception of wider views, intenser being, more generous, glowing, and ethereal aspirations. It is like the suffusion of purple and violet light cast down from the evening sun over the mountains, which, however beautiful in themselves, derive a truthful and heavenly beauty from it. It is not so much a part of ourselves, as the spirit of an eternal and divine world, which models and interpenetrates us into itself, and changes us from what we are, to what we are to be.—Hewitt.

"Jim, do you know Sam Stetson?"
"Know him! Reland him from a small puppy?"
"Is he clever?"
"Clever! He can have half my brand and butter any time."

Wellington.—"I am terribly put out," as the fellow said who was kicked into the street.

Saturday Evening Post.

EDITED AND PUBLISHED BY
GEORGE R. GRAHAM & CO.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 1841.

☞ RENEWAL.—The Office of the Saturday Evening Post has been removed to the South West Corner of Chesnut and Third Street. The attention is in every respect similar to that of the old stand. We shall be happy to see the good friends and patrons of our establishment at any time.

FAIR OFFERS.

As we intend to keep the best stock in both periodical literature and pasteboard embellishments, we offer the following liberal proposals for 1841. Those who wish to commence the year with us, should let us know at once.

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Who Will Succeed.

A majority of the Committee on Foreign Affairs have made a report to the House of Representatives at Washington, which will attract general attention. Its tone, to say the least, is warlike. How it will be treated by Congress remains to be seen. As our space will not permit us to publish the report in full, we annex a few extracts, embodying its substance.

The report relates principally to the burning of the Caroline, and the imprisonment of McLeod. It opens with a statement of the agitation on the frontier in Dec. 1837, and the curiosity of all persons to visit Navy Island, the retreat of some of the Canadian refugees. It then proceeds:

"The owner of the Caroline took advantage of these circumstances to make some money with his boat by running her as a ferry boat over to Navy Island. All these facts as appear from the testimony regularly taken, (see H. R. Doc. No. 302, pages 48 and 70, 2d Session, 25th Congress,) and the committee have no legal evidence to contradict them.—There is no proof that any arms or munitions of war were carried in the boat, except, perhaps, one small six pounder, and that belonging to a passenger.—The principal object was to run the boat as a ferry boat from Schlosser, on the American side, to Navy Island, on the British side. It is believed that even the latter fact was not known to the right to trade in contraband articles, subject, of course, to seizure and confiscation if taken within the jurisdiction of either of the contending parties. Such trade is contraband of war is not always certain. Treaty stipulations frequently include some articles, and exclude others from the list; in the law of nations, articles contraband articles is no excuse for invading the territory and soil of a neutral and independent Power, whose private citizens may choose to run the hazards of such a trade. In this instance there was no war between Foreign Powers engaged in war; but all conceived in the outbreak or excitement with the British jurisdiction claimed to be British subjects, in resistance of the authorities of Canada, a province of the British empire."

After laying down these well known principles of international law, and applying them to the facts of the case before them, the committee proceed to state, that, after having been used for but one day as a ferry boat, the Caroline, in the night, and within American jurisdiction, was captured, and burned, and at least one man assassinated. The calling of Canadian militia "piratical" in the correspondence of the British Ministers with the authorities of the Union, and the charge repelled as a misnomer of terms.

It is also argued that, even if the steamboat had been engaged in piracy, the burning of her in American waters would have been against the law of nations. The committee further remarks that the proper course, if the Canadian authorities felt themselves aggrieved, would have been to apply for redress to the Governor of New York, or the President of the U. States. They then continue.

"It was hoped that the outrage was perpetrated by a party in sudden heat and excitement, upon their own responsibility. But the British Minister now avows that "the act was the public act of persons obeying the constituted authorities of her Majesty's Province," and again affirms that "it was a public act of persons in her Majesty's service, obeying the orders of their superior authorities."

After remarking that this act derives more importance than it would otherwise deserve, from its being one of many like aggressions, and from the neglect with which England has treated our applications for redress, the committee proceed.

"As to the other points presented in the demand made by the British Minister for the 'liberation' of Alexander McLeod, the committee believe the facts of the case to be, that the steamboat was seized and burnt, as stated before, and that a citizen or citizens of New York were murdered in the affray. And there were reasons to induce the belief that McLeod was participes criminis. He was at first arrested, and upon various testimony being taken was then discharged. He was afterwards arrested a second time. Upon the evidence then presented, he was imprisoned to await his trial. There was no invasion of British territory to seize or take him—But, upon his being voluntarily within our territory, he was arrested as any citizen of the United States, charged with a similar offence, might have been.—We know of no law of nations that would except a man from arrest and imprisonment for offences charged to be committed against the 'peace and dignity' of a State, because he is a subject of Great Britain, or because he committed the crime at the instigation or under the authority of British Provincial officers, much less do we know of any law that would justify the President to deliver him up without trial, at the demand, and upon the assertion as to facts, of any agent of the British Government. If we had been at open war with Great Britain, and McLeod had committed the offences charged, then he might have fallen under the rules and regulations of war, and been treated as a prisoner of the United States Government, and would have been subject to the laws of retaliation in war. But as the alleged crimes and acts, in which McLeod is charged to be implicated, were committed in profound peace, it is a crime, as he may be convicted, solely against the 'peace and dignity' of the State of New York, and her criminal jurisdiction is complete and exclusive. If the crimes committed be such to make a man hostis humani generis—an outlaw—a pirate; in the legal acceptation of the term, then under the law of nations, the United States courts and tribunals would have jurisdiction. But this obscure charge in this case, committed as it was in time of peace as far as this individual was concerned, was one purely against the lex loci and cognizable exclusively within the criminal jurisdiction of the tribunals of New York."

This is all good law, and places the matter in its true light. The committee then proceed to deny the right of the British government to claim their fugitives from justice are protected by our soil. This is, however, incorrect Grotius, Heineccius, Burlamaqui, Vattel, and all the most distinguished public jurists uphold a contrary rule. The act of the New York legislature of 5th April, 1839, recognizes this doctrine, and facilitates its execution, by empowering the governor to surrender such fugitives. In the case of offenders against a foreign government, the duty is by no means so clear, but depends, as the committee have laid down, on treaty stipulations. None such exist in this case; but even if they did, as McLeod is an offender against American law, and arrested on American soil, the stipulations would not apply.

The close of the report is the only objectionable part of it. It is declamatory, and wants the calm dignity of a state state paper. But the wish the continued peace, breathed by the Committee, will find an echo in every bosom.

The Suspension.

The suspension of the Banks will continue and, as a consequence, the financial world is considerably embarrassed. Money is difficult to obtain, even at a high premium. The stockholding creditors would discount daily, if the paper of the country banks did not press so to fill up the interstices created by the withdrawal of any bank notes.

The opinions we expressed last week, as to the causes of this suspension, are now generally established by both parties to be correct; and the conduct of New York, or rather of a portion of her money dealers, has met with almost universal condemnation. As a mere matter of policy, nothing could be more unfortunate for that city. By forcing a suspension here, New York throws a large portion of the Western trade out of her hands, at once, and in short, drives the internal trade of this vast country into the bay of Philadelphia; for we may look upon it as a settled axiom, in commerce, that no buyer will resort to a market, when he will have to pay a premium on the funds required to discharge his bills, when he can purchase like goods at the same price, and without paying any premium in another market. The loss in this manoeuvre—let them disguise it as they may—will fall on New York.

The Legislature of Pennsylvania has, as yet, taken no measures in relation to this third suspension. Conjecture is alive as to their course. As far as we can learned an opinion, however, we think that a suspension will ultimately be legalized for one, two, or three years, although a shorter period may at first be named. The U. S. Bank, will probably not be included in this category.

Various rumors are afloat as to the course which the U. S. Bank will pursue. She has already sent a statement to Harrisburg, of her present condition, and the causes thereof. It is whispered that her intention is, if shut out from the benefits of a law legalizing a continued suspension, to resume to New York, and transact business there under the general Banking Law of that State.

We are indebted to a daily contemporary, for the following authentic statement of the amount of specie and specie funds paid by the Banks of Philadelphia, from December 15th, 1840, to February 8th, 1841, inclusive:

Pennsylvania Bank.	$1,137,164
North America,	985,000
Philadelphia,	1,141,890
Farmers and Mechanics'	862,620
Girard,	1,056,000
Mechanics,	212,000
Commercial,	130,000
Western,	191,000
Southwark,	75,261
Moyamensing,	101,000
Penn Township,	50,000
Manufac. and Mechanics',	25,000
Northern Liberties,	67,000
Kensington,	9,130
	$6,132,720
United States,	6,043,391
	$11,916,053

The money paid by the U. S. Bank, to the State of Pennsylvania, is itself a heavy item in disbursements, and amounts to one third of her capital. It is as follows, since November, 1836.

Bonus for Charter,	$2,500,000
Five annual payments to the School Fund,	500,000
Subscription for State Improvements, under the charter,	315,000
Voluntary subscriptions for the same,	978,000
Loans to the State yet unliquidated,	7,685,000
	$13,978,000

The directors of the U. S. Bank have addressed a memorial to the legislature; in which they state that they made every effort to prepare for a resumption, and that they would have succeeded in maintaining specie payments, had it not been for a combination of interests against the Bank. They state that their loans to the commonwealth, to the amount of twelve millions, have considerably crippled their exertions, and speak of the injustice to innocent stockholders, as well as to the state herself in forcing the Bank to wind up.—Under these circumstances, the Bank asks to be placed on the same footing with the others, in case of a law legalizing the suspension.

Currency Tinkers—Small Notes.

It is amusing to see the number of financiers, that have suddenly started into importance since the last suspension of specie payments by the banks, and to hear the rhodo montade in which they indulge in their efforts to reclaim "the dear people" from error. Fellows who never had a dollar but what was borrowed, nor an idea but what was stolen, measure out paragraphs upon the currency with all the solemnity and as much assurance as a vender of ribbons and tape, and swell out their diminutiveness into vast importance as they declaim upon the iniquity of the times, the men, and the money. Give them but an idea and they drive ahead with theories, as if they had absolutely opened a mine of their own, and were not retailing in diluted paragraphs, the very truths which others are taught in their school days. Nothing is worse for the prosperity of a nation than the possession of a little power by those "wise men, who are born late." Every principle in morals, or philosophy, which others have learned, and passed, as a tale that has been told, comes to them as a newly arrived problem, and they throw up their caps, as if they had actually made a discovery.

People may talk as they please about the abundance of specie, and its sufficiency to supply all the demands of retail business,—the fact is lamentably plain in this city, that it is all leaving. It disappears, not only from circulation, but from the city with the rapidity of lightning, and while the whole community is groaning in want of it, a host of small notes are forced into circulation, by the very necessity of the occasion, from adjoining States. Why is it?

It is a tale that is told in a few words. The balances of trade is in favor of the east, and against Philadelphia, and will continue to be so until the merchants of this city can get in their money from the west and south-west, or until available means to meet the balances are afforded. In the meanwhile the drafts upon us for specie must continue. The effort to supply the demand has been made and has failed, and even the most shallow thinker must now be satisfied that there is not specie enough. What then remains? Suspension by specie payments has been made, to a thing unavoidable! as a matter of sheer necessity, and a circulating medium for small amounts must be had of some sort. The flood of illegitimate shinplasters from other States are rapidly gaining circulation, and Pennsylvania is absolutely paying a handsome per cent. to enter States for the use of small notes.

In the meanwhile, croakers are lifting up their voices against any action of the legislature on the subject, and men of candid minds, whose Eastern business make the present turn of affairs injurious in some degree to their interests, are joining in the clamor, and attempting to drown the voice of the community, which cries out for action and speedy action, from the state legislature. Of the remedy to be devised, the representatives of the people must be the judges, but a remedy of some sort is demanded, and nothing but a remedy will satisfy. If specie cannot be had, let us have small notes of our own, and not by an obstinate, bull-headed policy, destroy the prosperity and credit of the State, and impair the business resources of the community.

The retailers of the city and county of Philadelphia, pay an annual tax of upwards of $60,000 for the privilege of pursuing business, and at the present time, the whole retail business, is at a stand still, for the want of a circulating Medium for small amounts. The weight falls with peculiar heaviness upon small dealers. To the Legislature, a confident look is turned for relief. Something must be done, and done soon. Pennsylvania, every small spot on high ground, at home or abroad, on which she had her coin circulation of small notes, in connexion with her sister States, did the cause of currency thirteen in open day, and she was borne this to her true greatness until it was corrupted, and an enlightened, liberal and statesman like policy, influenced the conduct of men, who took her under their direction.

The Post Magazine.

Mr. Fox, we are sorry to say, has been feeble, at the last moment, to abandon finally, or at least postpone indefinitely, his project of the Post Magazine. This is the more to be regretted as he had the finest prospects of success in the embellishment of the journal—such prospects as are seldom enjoyed—no excellent list of subscribers, and, what is equally to the purpose, the universal good-will of the public press. The month and week were deputed by many in his choice, and, under ordinary circumstances, he could not be disappointed of receiving the most gratifying support. In the present disorder of all monetary affairs, however, it was but common prudence to give up the enterprise—in fact it would have been madness to attempt it. Periodicals are among the principal sufferers by these pecuniary convulsions, and to commence one just now would be exceedingly hazardous. It is, beyond doubt, fortunate for Mr. P. that his late illness induced the postponement of his first number; which, it will be remembered, was to have appeared in January.

It is with pleasure we add, that we have secured the services of Mr. Fox as one of the editors of Graham's Magazine. As a story, just and impartial critic Mr. Fox holds a pen second to none in the country, and we have the confident assurance, that with such editorial strength as the Magazine now possesses, the literary department of the work will be of the very highest character.

New Publications.

The Kinsmen—or the Black Riders of the Cheviots—by the Author of "Guy Rivers, &c." 2 vols.—Lea & Blanchard.—We noticed the contemplated publication of this work a few weeks since. It is now before us. We unhesitatingly pronounce it to be the best novel ever written by Mr. Simms.

The story is laid in South Carolina during the latter years of the American Revolution; and is intended chiefly to illustrate the sufferings of that province, and the partisan warfare of the time.—Several of the characters are well drawn; Clarence Conway, for frankness and generosity is unrivalled; his half brother is a mean, crafty, and yet—somewhat of an anomaly—a bold villain, while Jack Bannister is a true Southern scout, and withal, well nigh a rival to old Leather Stocking. No one can fail to be interested in the work.

We have but one fault to find with Mr. Simms, and even in that we may be hypercritical. We think him too verbose. He does not hurry to a conclusion, as rapidly as he might. But even Scott, might be subjected to a like criticism, on the whole, Mr. Sims deservedly ranks high, as an American author.

"Sketches of Conspicuous Living Characters of France, Translated by R. M. Walsh—Philadelphia, Lea & Blanchard."—This volume contains a series of racy sketches of distinguished Frenchmen, which appeared in Paris, in weekly articles, and attracted considerable attention. The portraits are lively, and considered faithful. We have read but one—that upon Chateaubriand, who it is said, wrote a highly complimentary letter to the author upon the appearance of the sketch. We design to transfer one or more to our columns, that our readers may have a taste of their quality.

New Work.—We understand that Carey & Hart are engaged in publishing a splendid work, to be got up upon the style of Reed's Wordsworth, containing selections from the best American poets. All attempts, hitherto, to produce a work of this character which should please the critical public have failed. The editor of the proposed publication is R. J. Griswold, of the Standard, of this city, and he is said to be fully competent to the task. May he succeed.

"The Temperance Coon-Book, Compiled by a Lady.—Philadelphia, Gihon & Kuehler."—This is a neat little pocket volume of one hundred and sixty pages, containing a variety of receipts for cookery upon temperance principles. It is necessary, however, to taste the cookery before one can speak of the merits of the book. We commend it to the notice of housewives.

Merry's Museum.—An excellent little periodical for youths, between the ages of seven and fifteen, has been laid upon our table, bearing the above title. It is full of entertaining matter, and illustrated with numerous wood cuts. The life and adventures of Mr. Merry by the author of Peter Parley's tales is not the least interesting portion of the work. We cordially recommend it.

The Ladies' Repository and Gatherings of the West.—This is a very neat monthly magazine, published at Cincinnati, Ohio, for the Methodist Episcopal Church. Its literature partakes of a religious character. Some of the articles are highly creditable to the authors.

Letter to Cuba.

Cuban Hounds—The Population—Its Resources—A Bull Fight.

The Commercial Advertiser, in a letter from Havana, gives a graphic account of "Life in Cuba." We cannot resist making a few extracts.

It may be especially said of this place as it has been said of Italy—"Here the days are all sunshine, the nights are all moonlight—love is the religion and pleasure the law of the land." The light-house guides the mariner's bark to the long desired haven of rest—the Moro Castel challenges its entrance—white Casts! Blanco, with its overhanging embattlements, frowns into submission and obedience this degraded city, and the occupants of its noble harbor. Every thing is stationary here, and seems to have stood so for ages past. The march of intellect has turned aside and left undisturbed the pertinacity of the habits and customs of this place and people. Its form and fashion of building is that of the cities of the earlier ages around the Mediterranean.

Divest it of its wooden materials and living population, and its remains would stand scarcely distinguishable from those of Pompeii, as now excavated from its Vesurian tomb of eighteen centuries. All the houses are of stone, rudely made and coarsely stuccoed over, inside and out, and are mostly with flat roofs. I am lodged in a principal hotel, with coarsely a pane of glass in it,—one is once required. My room opens on an upper terrace, from which the ocean, the harbor, the city and the verdant country, are all combined in one of the most variegated and delightful views I ever beheld.

The Island of Cuba is productive almost beyond belief in sugar, coffee, tobacco and fruits, and with a considerable portion of its land not yet under cultivation. Its colonial blessings are a government general as an executive, with 30,000 troops to support his administration. It sustains the expence of its own government, and pays over to Spain annually the sum of about twelve millions of dollars, for the benefit of being held in subjection. Its population is six hundred thousand white inhabitants. The import duty is ten dollars and sixty-two cents on a barrel of flour. The plough in use here is a long unwieldy thing, without shape or mould-board, and is certainly two hundred years behind the age in agricultural improvements.

A few days past, placards were posted about the city walls, informing of the bull-fight at 4 o'clock across the bay. Steamboats and row-boats attended at the hour—the populace prompt to the spot—a few Americans joined, and were hence along with the crowd. The place was an amphitheatre, or like a circus. All comfortably seated on elevated rows of benches. The seat of the judges and more distinguished persons were indicated by curtains. The sport soon began. The bull was let in at a small gate, from his cage, and as he entered his head and neck were stuck full of barbed arrows and exploding rockets with percussion crackers. The noise in the brute drove two wounded Frenchmen, and eight men on foot—all dressed and acting like a circus at a circus.

All had small fleet, at which the infuriated animal, frantic with the bells and crackers, made furious rushes, and the horsemen adroitly avoided his assaults, to the delight of the populace. The whole scene was a mixture of ludicrous and terrible. One horse was gored to death by the animal. Two others, smeltsmen with their riders, and escaped by the flags held in front to distract the fury of the creature. At each death three horses entered in full harness, and fantastically dressed, and drew out the carcass, with trumpets—a full band of martial music, and the loud shouts of a delighted populace, cheering the horses, with the riders' whips, into a full leap. This is one of the weekly amusements of this city. A single exhibition has satisfied me forever.

From the Feeder.

From letters, to November 20th 1840, from the Pacific, we learn that the British "Steam Packet Company" had two of their Steam vessels in operation. The Peru "arrived at Callao from Valparaiso on the 7th of November in 6 days passage, touching at all the intermediate Ports, she left Lima for Valparaiso on the 15th Nov. with one hundred and thirty-five passengers! this being her first trip. On the 24th of November the "Chile" arrived in 8½ days from Valparaiso with forty-five passengers, being her first trip. These vessels are spoken of as being of 700 tons, built with great regard to strength, that the hull may be the better able to resist the constant jarring of the Engines, and maintain its tightness in the strongest gale and heaviest sea. They have additional fastenings, and are if possible, built stronger than any vessels navigated by sails.—They steamed it nearly all the passage from England to Chili in 55 days! stopping at Rio Janeiro and passing through the straits of Magellan.—The "Peru" in 30 hours through the Straits.

It is understood that the Company will not run the line to Panama until their own Steam vessels are ready to go into operation on this side of the Isthmus, from Chagres to England, via. Jamaica and New York. It is contemplated that they will be in readiness in all this year (1841). It would be no easy task to calculate all the advantages that will be derived from this line of Steam communication between the United States, Europe and the shores of the vast pacific. It will be no difficult matter for an English merchant or his agent, to reach the city of Lima in Peru, from England in 45 days and from the United States in 30 days. When the passage around Cape Horn would require from 100 to 120 days, with all the discomforture of storms and tempest.

The United States Frigate Constitution, Sloop of war St. Louis and Schooner Shark were at Lima at this date. The Constitution and Shark to sail in a few days for Valparaiso. The St. Louis it was thought would "go to the Islands." Letters from the Constitution speak in high praise of the Apprentice Boys, many of them have "become smart and active tap-men." They are no distributed about the ship, and their duties so varied, as to enable them to become familiar with all the duties of seamen. One half attends school daily. We are highly gratified with the accounts given of this "Naval Apprentice" System, and cannot but express a hope that the Government will adopt such regulations as will prevent boys of bad characters from entering the Navy as apprentices.—We look forward to the day when our vessels of war, under the "apprentice system," will be manned with crews of intelligent and virtuous Native Seamen. Under a like system in our Commercial Marine, the same happy results might be obtained.

Temperance in Ireland.

The wonders achieved by Father Mathew and the Temperance pledge, in this unhappy country, receive daily confirmation. From a late letter to the editors of the Knickerbocker, we copy the following paragraphs. The writer says:

"It is some four or five years since I was in this quarter of the world, and the change that is now perceptible on the face of men and things is astonishing. It is ascertained that upwards of three millions in Ireland have taken the pledge; the consequence of which is, that instead of the hundreds and thousands of beggars that were wont to infest the streets, some of them with scarcely any clothing upon them, you now rarely see one. It used to be difficult to discover what was, or had been, the original color or texture of a poor Irishman's coat; in fact, it was a thing to baffle all research. It is now far different. The lower orders are comparatively well clad, and clean.—The distilleries are all turned into flour-mills, and the public houses have vanished. On last St. Patrick's Day, although the streets were covered with dense crowds of people, there was not a "tipsy" man to be seen. In former times, an Irishman would have considered himself disgracing his saint, his country and himself, if he did not get beastly drunk on that day. All this reformation has arisen out of the exertions of Father Mathew, who I hear is an excellent fellow, and anything but a bigot. He is now erecting a chapel in Cork, out of the proceeds of the sale of shilling teetotal pledge-medals, that will cost nearly eighty thousand pounds, and which, when finished, will steal in magnificence of design and beauty of architecture, any other building in Europe. The taking of the pledge is not confined to the lower orders. Many of the first and best circles of society have taken it; and what astonishes me most of all, is, that many of the car-men have taken it, who used to be 'screamers' in the drinking way."

A Railroad over a Town.

One of the most gigantic works of modern times has just been completed. This is the Stockport Viaduct, England.

The Manchester and Birmingham direct line of Railway now runs over, not through the town of Stockport. The arches literally stride over that large town. Standing in a valley, in Cheshire, the town of Stockport is too low for the level of the Railroad. In 21 months was completed a viaduct, based on the solid rock, of 26 arches—22 of 63 feet span and 4 of 30 feet span. The length is 1786 feet. It stands 111 feet above the Mersey, which flows beneath, and is then 6 feet higher than the Mersi Bridge. The foundation, in the meadows, is six feet deep, and 9 feet of stone work above ground. From thence to the springing of the arches the piers are of brick work, and the huge bonds of the same material. Brick was used as less likely, when well made, to chip, splinter, or decay. The whole cost £70,000. The utmost settling in the whole work after taking the wooden supporters from the arches is half an inch.

A great saving has been effected by raising this viaduct to such a height, as it reduces the works on each side of the valley, and lessens the expense £50,000. It has been made 1786 feet long, because that had to span all the streets. It is the first time that, for such a great work, brick has been chiefly employed. This great work will long be a matter of wonder to the world.

Jail Broken.

The New Orleans Picayune of the 26 inst of this month, says that eight runaway slaves confined in the Natchez Jail, on Wednesday of last week, effected their escape by cutting through the floor, filing a bar of iron in two in a window, and then leaping to the ground. Three of them were taken in the yard; four others remained in the dungeon, not having had time to get out before they were discovered; five made their escape, barricaded, to the river, where they procured a skiff and canoe, and proceeded on the bosom of the father of waters towards this city, how far is not known. Two of the deputy sheriffs, young and old Withers, (the Hays of Natchez,) with the jailor, are in warm pursuit, and if they escape entirely they will have to be so light-hooked as De Valence himself. The names of those now at large are Benjamin Morgan, on a charge of murder; Antoine Truby, accessary to the same; Jack Davis, James F. Johnson and John Rose, for grand larceny.

A Good Hoax.

The Falls of Niagara overwhelmed—Destruction of the Hotel—Universal Consternation.

The Northern mail of Thursday, brought the subjoined intelligence of the destruction of the Falls of Niagara. For a while it astonished the people, though most now through the hoax is seen. The description, however, is so like what it would be in case the event of such a catastrophe, that we give it below as a model for hoaxers.

The following extract, dated 6 o'clock, three hours after the event, will give the reader a correct picture of the whole, while speaking of the flight of the inhabitants, it says nothing of the fate of those who remained, on the Canada side, the former crowded, as the Canada side was, into the open country, and the latter into the cellars and vaults of the Clifton House, which, as the reader will remember, is built on the very verge of the precipice. Many, no doubt, perished in the ruins, and the dreadful scenes attendant upon the destruction of the Falls, while reading of the flight of the inhabitants, will be forgotten in the fate of those who remained.

Thursday morning, about 8 o'clock, three hours after the fall, the roar of the waters, which, previous to that time, had been distinctly heard, ceased entirely. The citizens of the village, while making all the preparations for breakfast, were startled by the sudden cessation of the usual sound. Every one paused to listen to the cause, when the fearful truth flashed across the mind of every one that the Falls had ceased to flow! In a moment, the streets were filled with the inhabitants, rushing to the river, to ascertain the fact. All had ceased flowing, and the water was fast receding, leaving the rocks over which it had been pouring, bare to the gaze of the astonished multitude. Many ran down the bank, and passed over the bed of the river, where, but a few minutes before, the water was

SATURDAY EVENING POST.

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Agents are earnestly solicited to make quick remittances, without which it is difficult to keep accounts correct.

Letters should always give names and cities paid for.

Any person forwarding Ten Dollars current, free of postage, in advance, will be entitled to six copies.

Remittals must always state the Post-office vessel from, as well as to which the paper is to be addressed.

Travelling Agents.

☞ Isaac H. Townsend, Esq. of Wheeling, Va. has been appointed agent for the Saturday Evening Post and Graham's Magazine in the place of R. J. Gurwood, deceased. Subscribers at that place, and those wishing to subscribe for either periodical will be kind enough to call on him.

☞ I. K. Jaret is our general travelling agent, assisted by G. B. P. Bond and Seth T. Brooks. Subscribers and others will oblige us by paying him their subscriptions.

☞ Wm. McGuet is agent for the Post and Magazine at Fayetteville, N. C. Subscribers at old post place will please call and receive new subscribers in the States of Ohio and Indiana, assisted by H. M. Lewis and H. Mitchell.

☞ D. A. Bullard, of Jacksonville, Ill. is the agent for the Saturday Evening Post and Graham's Magazine all re presentations by others to the contrary notwithstanding. We cordially recommend him.

☞ S. G. Harrod and I. F. Hayes for Illinois, Missouri, Arkansas, Iowa and Wisconsin.

☞ S. B. Stevenson and John F. Johnson for Kentucky.

☞ W. A. Pierce, the Pennsylvania and New Jersey

☞ J. Frost, Jr. Auburn, New York, is duly authorized to receive monies due for Saturday Evening Post and Graham's Magazine.

☞ Alanson Sellers, Esq. is our agent for Tennessee

☞ Wm. B. Tout, Esq. of Versailles, Ky. is our agent. vice John Anderson, Esq. resigned.

☞ L. Tompkins for the New England States. Subscribers who may be waited upon by the above gentlemen, will please liquidate their accounts at once. tf

Financial Record.

New Counterfeits.

Bank of Illinois, Shawneetown, Illinois.—10's, dated May 7, 1839, payable to J. C. Hite. The right hand margin only tolerably executed, all the rest, and especially the words "Bank of Illinois" and "Shawneetown" wretchedly done, as also the signature of John Marshall.

Bank of Virginia, Branch at Norfolk, Va.—10's, letter D, payable to W. B. Lamb, dated March 9, 1830. W. Dandridge, Cash. J. Brockenbrough, Prest. Signatures engraved.

Farmers' and Mechanics' Bk, Burlington, Vt.—5's, letter A, pay to Samuel Blair. C. F. Warner, Cash. John, Pres't. General appearance bad, especially the vignette.

Mechanics' Bank, Concord, N. H.—No such Bank in existence. These bills are signed G. Hosmer, Cash.

Commercial Bank of New York.—5's and 10's, altered from Commercial Bank of Millmington, Md. a broken institution; may be detected by the signatures, W. Adams, Cash. Y. W. Wood, Prest. R. W. Radfield is Cashier.

Seventh Ward Bank, N. Y.—20's altered from 10's. The one's are of course the altered bills, and have for a vignette a female figure leaning on a bale of goods and Mercury with horn of plenty.

Farm. and Mech. Bank, Steubenville, Ohio—5's, altered from Farmers' and Mechanics' Bank, Burlington, W. T. The vignette, which is totally unlike the genuine bills, is a female holding in one hand a goblet to an eagle. Engraved by Burton A Gurley, N. Y.

Greenwich Bank, N. Y.—1 and 2's of the genuine plate, with forged signatures. The President's name is spelt Satterlee, instead of Satterlee.

10's altered from 1's, in the altered bill the name of the Bank is printed on the top—on the genuine through the centre.

Kingston Bank, Kingston, N. Y.—5's, letters, M. D, pay to A. Harrison, dated Oct. 1, 1837. J. S. Smith, Cash. E. Lomeby, Prest.

Union Bank, Buffalo, N. Y.—5's purporting to be based on Real Estate securities, and may thus be detected, the Union Bank having no such notes in circulation.

Bank of Orleans county, Albion, N. Y.—20's altered from 5's. The vignette at each end of the bill in covered over, as also the two 5's at the top. Easily detected by holding the bill up to the light.

Citizens' Bank, N. Orleans.—50's altered from 5's. The genuine 50's have for a vignette in the centre three female figures, while the 5's have an engraving of the bank.—*Bick. Reporter.*

SALES OF STOCKS.

By the Philadelphia Board of Brokers, for the week ending Thursday.

	price sold for. par.
250 shares United States Bank	22½@30 100
70 do. Phil Wil & Balt R R	37@39
325 do. Vicksburg Bank	7@7½ 100
102 do. Girard Bank	11@20
5 do. Schuylkill Navigation Co	50@50½ 100
5 do. North America Bank	351@353 100
5 do. Philadelphia Bank	99½ 50
6 do. Fir & Mec. Bank	49½ 50
1 do. Commercial Bank	49 50

The Gallipolis Bank.—The affairs of this bank are worse than they were at first suspected to be. $80,000 was the *officially reported* amount of the notes in circulation, but it ascertained that the real amount is nearly $200,000. On an examination of the vaults, $70,000 in notes not signed, and $100,000 of those filled up and signed, of the denominations of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 100, were found. And of the 100,000 filled up and signed, it is said the President E. E. Smith's name was a forgery, so it is also on three-fourths of the notes in circulation. In one package, several $400,000 of notes and bills of exchange, drawn by John Murphy and signed by John O. Bailey, and by Morris Sullivan, were found. Those bills were payable some at the U. S. Bank of Pa., and others at Banks in New York. All these were evidently made, and to be used for fraudulent purposes, some of which had been entered on the books as notes discounted, and forwarded to New York for collection.

New York Banks.—The eighteen Banks of New York city have an aggregate circulation and deposits of fourteen millions, while their specie does not amount to four millions. The whole of the banks of the State have in circulation and on deposit upwards of $36,000,000 on a specie basis of less than $9,000,000

Franklin Bank of Baltimore.—The total assets of the institution are officially reported to be $977,497, and its liabilities $407 157, leaving a surplus of $570. 340 to be divided among the stockholders; which will be $11 66 on each share —par value $25.

Resumption in Wilmington, N. C.—The Bank of Cape Fear and the Bank of the State, resumed the payment of their liabilities in specie on Thursday, the 3d inst.

Baltimore Banks.—A number of suits have been commenced against the Baltimore Banks by their note holders.

The Effects of Steam.

The Lowell Courier of a late date details the distressing fateful story. Last Thursday, Dr. Hutchinson was called to Mrs. Aiken, a miserable inhabitant, living in Belvidere. He left medicine for her and she was again visited Friday and Saturday, and each time was found to have been drinking, notwithstanding the remonstrances of the Physician to the contrary. She, her husband, who had just returned from the House of Correction, and their two little boys, aged seven and nine, all slept in the same room. Sunday morning, one of the boys got up and went into another room, and in the same house, and told a woman whom he found there, that his mother was dead.

Some of the neighbors were immediately summoned, and, upon entering the room, they found that the child of the boy were true, and that his mother was dead, and would rejoin [illegible] some time during the [illegible] boys. On another [illegible] by husband, seized [illegible] and entirely ignorant [illegible] wife's death. The woman had drank a pint of brandy, which she sent for by one of the boys on Saturday; the husband had drank nearly as much in his own confession, a pint of rum, procured in the same way, and under the head of the wife's corpse lay a half-emptied rum bottle! The little boy, to protect himself from the cold, had again crawled into bed, beside his mother's dead body, where his father was also lying.

Con.—Which is a bonnet not a bonnet? Answer—When it has over a woman.

General News.

McLeod.—The counsel of the valiant Canadian have published a long letter in the Niagara Courier, in which they state their belief in his innocence of the charge preferred against him, and say that, in attempting to procure his release on bail, there was not the slightest desire on his part to avoid a trial. This will do very well for his lawyers, and reflects great credit upon them; but it will hardly pass current among the Yankees. The Grand Jury of Lockport are now examining witnesses in M'Leod's case. The indictment charges him with the murder of Durfee, who is known to have been killed on board the Caroline. The result of the investigation will not be known for some days, as there are a large number of witnesses, whose testimony will be taken in writing, for future reference.

The Montreal Transcript,—the paper which said that one thousand American lives would be required for "each particular hair" on McLeod's head, should any harm come upon him—in view of the late proceedings at Lockport, has come to the conclusion that "the case has now assumed a serious aspect—and it shall expect an hour of Mr. Fox demanding, his passports or McLeod's release."

Difficulties Apprehended.—The chief engineer of the steamer Pocahontas, Mr. Jesse Schaefer, was killed on Wednesday afternoon by coming in contact with some part of the machinery of the engine. It is supposed says the Baltimore Clipper, when at work and stooping, his head was struck first by a large crank, which felled him into the lower pit, where he was found dead. His left ear was entirely cut off, and his head otherwise much bruised.

Mr. Schaefer was about 22 years of age, and has left to mourn his premature death a young wife, to whom he had been lately married. The accident happened at two o'clock, P. M. off Thomas' Point, about 40 miles from Baltimore. Immediately upon this occurrence, Capt. Holmes put back to Baltimore with the deceased.

An inquest was held over the body by Mr. W. T. Rice, Coroner, and a verdict given by the jury of accidental death.

Mississippi Affairs.—Most gloomy indeed do the official records of this State represent its pecuniary condition. For several years the annual expenditures of the State have exceeded its receipts. For the last twelve months the receipts were $161,000, and the expenses $491,000, or nearly three to one. During the year, the Treasurer was compelled to fail in the payment of a large amount of Auditor's orders.

In the statement of the condition of the Banks, it seems that the greater part have failed altogether. Of the Mississippi Union Bank, founded on the Bonds of the State, a most melancholy account is given. The capital was, we believe, fifteen millions of dollars. Of the assets eight millions of dollars are returned, as "unavailing resources," and is of course lost.

Murder in New Jersey.—The body of a negro boy, lately in the service of Mr. Appleget of Middleton, N. J., was found in the woods on Monday, examining witnesses in M'Leod's case. The indictment charges him with the murder of Durfee, who is known to have been killed on board the Caroline. The result of the investigation will not be known for some days, as there are a large number of witnesses, whose testimony will be taken in writing, for future reference.

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Important Law Suit.—It is stated that a very important case will be brought on for trial in the Superior Court of New York on Monday next. It is the case of the loss of the "Home," and is an action brought against the Company for the recovery of the Insurance.

Death of an American Consul.—P. S. Parker, Esq., American Consul at Bombay, died on ship board in Calcutta last, while on his way to Zanzibar, and thence home. He was but 39 years of age, and is highly spoken of.

Gov. Arthur.—It is stated that the Lieutenant Gov. of Canada, Sir George Arthur, with his family and suite, leave for England, in the Columbia from Boston on the first of March next.

Fire at Buffalo.—Four frame houses were burned down in Buffalo, N. Y. a few evenings since. The fire originated in placing refuse ashes in a wooden vessel.

Another Accident by Fire.—A female was sadly burned by her clothes taking fire on Wednesday evening, in Brooklyn. It is feared she will not recover.

Fire at Williamsport.—It appears that the late account of a destructive fire at Williamsport, Maryland, was a hoax. The author of it deserves a horse whipping.

A Good Story.—The Charleston Mercury says that a few days since, a gentleman in the neighborhood of Jacksonboro', killed *four deer at a shot.*

Cotton Manufactures.—One fourth of the Cotton raised in the Southern States, is manufactured into cloth at the North, the remainder is exported.

Wood on Stones.—A family was nearly suffocated in New York on Monday night, by placing wood on the stove to dry before going to bed.

Tea from London.—The Samson, at New York from London, has on board one thousand and ninety-two chests of tea.

Bankrupt Law.—Resolutions in favor of a bankrupt law have been introduced into the Senate of N. York.

An Abominable Custom.—To drink rum while water is so much cheaper and more healthy.

M'Leod Imbroglio.—The Lockport Democrat and Balance Extra, of Saturday, February 6, says:—The Grand Jury, after being engaged two or three days in hearing the evidence against Alexander McLeod, came into court this morning, with a bill against him for MURDER.

He will have to remain in jail until the court of Oyer Terminer to be held on the 4th Monday in March unless a special commission of Oyer and Terminer shall issue. Such commission may be issued by the Governor, with the advice and consent of the Senate. A Justice of the Supreme Court or a Circuit Judge must in all cases be appointed to preside in such special Court.

The Science of Ballooning.—A scientific gentleman of New York insists upon it that he has discovered a means or propelling balloons through the air at almost any required speed and in any direction. He wants Congress to pass a law guaranteeing all the advantages of such an invention for 50 years to any person who will propel and steer a balloon in the air at a rate of not less than ten miles per hour. He thinks that in 1841 if such an act be passed a revolution will be commenced in modes of travelling such as the world has never yet beheld. No doubt; we fear the revolution will cost some lives.

The Serpent in the Tabernacle.—A singular occurrence took place in Falmouth, (Nova Scotia,) a couple of Sundays since. While the New-Light congregation were engaged in prayer, in their meeting house, a huge grey snake entered the door, and wound itself along up the aisle, towards the pulpit, when it curled itself away in one corner of the church, and remained quite motionless, excepting its jaws, which it occasionally opened. The congregation became lost in conjecture to know by what means such a stranger could have found its way into the settlement.

An Old Couple.—An interesting marriage ceremony says the New Orleans Picayune, took place recently in Pekin, Illinois, uniting in holy bands Stephen Mason and Hannah Mason. The ardent Stephen is *seventy-three years of age*, and Hannah is blushing *sixty-seven!* The lovely pair had been previously married at an early day, lived together forty years, raised and have now living thirteen children. Seven years ago they separated, were legally divorced, and became *free Masons.*

Wheeling Up.—Several banks in Massachusetts are closing business, and a call is made upon the holders of their bills to forward them for payment before the period arrives when they will cease to be redeemed. The following named banks are those referred to, viz. Fulton, Commercial, American, Hancock, Kilby and Oriental Banks, at Boston; Norfolk at Roxbury, Middlesex, at Cambridge, Windsor, at Windsor; Montpelier, at Montpelier; East Bridgewater, at East Bridgewater.

Texas.—Galveston papers to the 26th ult. have been received, but contain nothing of importance. Rumors still prevail that Mexico is preparing an invasion. They are not credited. A proposition for a bankrupt law has been enacted by Congress. Heavy rains still continued and travelling had been almost abandoned. A man charged with a murder in Mississippi was brought to New Orleans from Galveston on the 2d inst. and delivered to the proper authorities.

Sudden Death.—A fireman on board the Philadelphia fire Boat lying at Prime street wharf, Southwark, on Saturday morning, while engaged in emptying some ashes out of a pan, suddenly fell and expired.—The coroner held an inquest upon the body, the jury returning a verdict of "death from apoplexy." The deceased was named Richard West. He was 34 years old and has left a wife and children in Philadelphia where he belonged.

Another Defalcation.—*Extraordinary Development.*—An Child, late agent of the Rail Road Company, at Norwich, Ct., has turned out a defaulter to the Company of upward of $33,000. It seems that Mr. C. committed no less than eight forgeries in order to carry on his game of embezzlement—and that he perjured himself four times before the Massachusetts Legislature, in order to obtain the grant of $400,000 to aid the Rail Road.

Cotton Factory Burnt.—On Thursday of last week a fire broke out in the store house of the Central Manufacturing Company, at Lowell, Mass. and was put out. There was a large stock of cotton on the premises. The fire is supposed to have originated from the spontaneous combustion of a quantity of "cotton waste" which had been allowed to accumulate. There was no insurance. Loss $3000.

A Talking Watch lately "came off" at New Orleans for five hundred dollars a side. It continued, according to the Advertiser, for thirteen hours; the rivals being a Frenchman and a Kentuckian. The bystanders and judges were all talked to sleep, and when they waked up in the morning, they found the Frenchman dead, and the Kentuckian whispering in his ear.

The Vattemare Institute.—A law imposing the necessary tax to raise the funds for erecting a Vattemare Institute passed the Special Council of Montreal on the 25th inst by a majority of nineteen votes. The object of the Institute is to carry into effect the design of national exchanges advocated throughout this country last year by M. Alexandre Vattemare.

Boston Fire.—On Thursday evening last, a fire broke out in the boarding house on the Main street in Jamaica, L. I., next to the school of Miss Hanna, and destroyed both buildings as well as the adjoining one where the Long Island Farmer newspaper was published. The three buildings were owned by a Mr. Horriman.

Suicide.—C. W. Drescher committed suicide at New Orleans, on the 1st inst., by jumping from on board the ferry boat Samson Twins. Drescher was a Secretary to Gen. Gaines, and an inoffensive man, but unable to bear up against slight misfortunes. He was married and the father of several children.

Fatal Accident.—A workman named Mr. Jonathan Rutledge, while engaged in making some repairs on the steam engine in Mr. Merrecield's sash factory on Woodward, Mass., was struck on the head by a crank and instantly killed. He was about 25 years of age and has left a wife and one child.

Steamboat Loss.—The steamer Brian Boroihme struck a snag on the 24th ult., about one hundred miles below Shreveport, on Red River, and went down in a few minutes. The passengers saved their baggage. The boat is a total loss and a portion of the cargo only, consisting of cotton, was saved.

From Mexico.—News from Tampico as late as January, state that the Government had been making great exertions to procure a loan to enable them to fit out an expedition for Texas; but money was scarce—every body was poor—no money could be obtained, and the Texas war is given up.

Serious Explosion.—Two persons were shockingly mutilated by a premature explosion, the other day at the stone quarry of Mr. John Van Buren, at Kinderhook, N. Y. Mr Van Buren himself was one of those; but it is thought he will recover. He is a cousin of the President.

Gone.—The past year has always been regarded with apprehension. Forty has always been supposed an era in which misfortunes would occur. Louis XV. watched the clock on the night of December 31, 1769, and when midnight passed, exclaimed with great joy, "There, it has passed."

Rhode Island.—The Legislature of Rhode Island have altered the time of choosing Representatives to Congress from August to April. The choice will be made on the day of the annual State election, which takes place on the 3d Tuesday of April.

Texas Boundary Line.—The Commissioners to run the boundary line between Texas and the United States, left Opelousas, on the 21st ult., for the Sabine. The line, it is stated, will be finished in about three months.

Proper Courtesy.—General Harrison visited the President of the United States on Wednesday last, and dined with him on Saturday. The President returned the visit of the General on Thursday.

Malicious Mischief.—An Indian named Edward Onley was arrested in New York on Thursday for throwing oil of vitriol on a girl named Hager Kingland, burning her dress and person very seriously.

Insurrection.—It was rumored at Augusta, Ga. on the 26th ult. that an insurrection among the blacks was in progress. Some excitement, and several arrests were the consequence.

Public Lands.—A committee in the Maryland Legislature have made a report in favor of a distribution of the public lands among *all the States.* Two of the committee dissented.

Wood on Stones.—A family was nearly suffocated in New York on Monday night, by placing wood on the stove to dry before going to bed.

Tea from London.—The Samson, at New York from London, has on board one thousand and ninety-two chests of tea.

Bankrupt Law.—Resolutions in favor of a bankrupt law have been introduced into the Senate of N. York.

An Abominable Custom.—To drink rum while water is so much cheaper and more healthy.

Another Outrage at Dayton.—The Dayton Journal of the 8th inst. contains the particulars of another disgraceful outrage at that place. About 2 o'clock of the morning of the 4th inst. the houses of several blacks in the outskirts of the town, were fired, and burnt to the ground with their contents. The houses were three in number, and were the property of the occupiers. Although the weather was exceedingly cold, the blacks were not allowed to save any of their clothing, except what they slept in, nor were they permitted to bring any of their property out of the flames. The outrage seems to have been conducted with much deliberation, and few persons know of its commission until the next day; the blacks being forbidden to make any alarm, on pain of instant death. Such occurrences are a stain upon human nature, and while they bring our republican institutions into disrepute abroad, throw discord, confusion and barbarity into the domestic circles. We trust that the strength of the law will be awakened and a stop put to such outbreaks.

Great Fire and Loss of Life.—At Quebec, on the morning of the 4th inst., a great fire occurred, by which much property was destroyed, and four persons perished. The fire commenced in the shop of a Mr. McAdams. The neighbors were awakened by an explosion, and the flames were seen bursting out of the shop window of McAdams' shop, and rushing almost across the street. The house was burned down, and the fire spread to Mr. Smallfire's shop, and extended to the second and third stories. Mr. Smallfire, his wife, a servant maid, and two apprentices, slept in the third story. Poulson, an apprentice, the only one saved, jumped out of a window. The rest perished.

The fate of Mr. Smallfire and his family has occasioned a melancholy sensation among all classes of the citizens. He was a person of great respectability and excellent character

Shocking and Fatal Accident.—A laboring man named Christopher Blank of Cayuga County, N. Y. was killed on the 30th ult. while splitting some logs for himself and his neighbors. He had succeeded in splitting one of the stems in the ordinary way, but wishing to avoid the great labour thus required, procured a blast of powder and applied a slow match. By some means this ignited sooner than was intended, and the plug was driven into his head a little below the right eye, proving instantly fatal. The plug, it appeared, passed so far through the head, as to strike with great force upon the back part of the skull, and thence bounding back was found at a distance of 18 inches from his body.—Mr. B. was a worthy man, between 30 and 40 years of age, and has left a wife and four small children to mourn his death.

Common Carriers.—The Court in Bank, (the Court of last resort in Ohio,) have decided that proprietors of stage coaches are common carriers—that as such, they are responsible for the safe conveyance of passengers and baggage—that their giving notice to the booking clerks not to receive them from liability—that a watch is a customary article of baggage, and the trunk of a traveller the proper place for its deposite—that the stage proprietor will be charged if it be lost. We very often observe in the advertisements of stage proprietors, *"all baggage at the risk of the owner"!* There have been numerous decisions of late upon this point, in different States of the Union, all of which coincide that such a notice avails nothing.

Fires in New York.—A frame house, No. 20 Vandewater street, New York, was entirely destroyed by fire early on Monday morning. It was occupied by several poor families who barely escaped with their lives. The adjoining houses were partially damaged. On the same morning the steamboat Cinderella caught fire, while lying at Whitehall slip, but was extinguished without serious damage. Afternoon, about 2 o'clock, the distillery occupied by Hitchcock and Schneck, in Sheriff street between Stanton and Houston, took fire and was totally destroyed.

United States Bank.—The citation issued at the relation of Andrew Miller, Esq., against the United States Bank, to show cause why its charter should not be forfeited, has been *quashed*. We predicted this, advised, by the payment of the demand in gold coin by the Bank. Mr. Miller then commenced similar proceedings on a demand for $1250 in notes, which had been refused by the Bank. Other citizens were induced upon smaller amounts by different individuals, among which was one for ten dollars by George Albert.

Grammatical.—"Sammy," said a fond father to his son who was just studying English grammar, "our cat caught a rat, in which case is the noun cat in the nominative case?" "Why, father," replied Sammy —"very good—very good, indeed—but the rat,—is the rat in the nominative case, too?" "Why no, sir" hesitated Sammy, "*the rat sir, is in—is in—you sir, the rat is in—*" "What?" "why sir, he's in a very bad case indeed, sir!" Your's a smart boy, Sammy, you are—you may go down head.

Robbing a Female Doctor.—A man named James Gardner was convicted in Boston, on Saturday last, of robbing Mrs. Ruth Wheeler, a female physician, of $1794. Gardner was studying the mysteries of the healing art under the lady's tuition, and having gained her confidence in money matters, availed himself of an opportunity to plunder her money bags. The trial lasted four days, but the jury were out only half an hour.

Shocking Depravity.—A mulatto woman was nearly burned to death on Saturday last, in Baltimore. She resided in a miserable and infamous neighborhood, known as Salley Jack of Frederick street, and had gone to bed, when a negro woman who lived in the same house placed a quantity of shavings under the bed, and set fire to them. The woman was so horribly burned that the flesh dropped from her bones.

The Suspension.—The Banks of Richmond, Va. still continue to pay specie. The Exchange and Farmers' Banks of Petersburg pay out small sums only, but the Virginia Bank pays in full. The Banks of North Carolina remain firm in the resumption, and those of South Carolina will probably do likewise.—The Charleston Banks have generally resumed and will it is believed, continue to pay out specie.

The Garrick.—All efforts to get the hull of this vessel over the outer bar on the coast where she was stranded, have been suspended until the spring tides. She has been well secured by anchors in all directions, so as to prevent any working and it is hoped, from her strength and excellence of model, that she will remain sound until there is sufficient water to float her off.

Marine Disasters.—The Pilot Boat U States, of Baltimore, went ashore in a snow storm on the 5th inst. near Smith's Island, and was totally lost. The crew were saved. The schr. Tigress of Georgetown, D. C., bound for Baltimore, was discovered on Wednesday aground below Norfolk dismasted and abandoned.

A Flood Expected.—It is stated that three times more moisture has fallen in the vale of the Mississippi during the month of January, than in common. Such an unusual fall of rain and snow will keep the river very high until the spring floods, when a vast overflow must bathe consequence.

The Florida Indians.—Col. Harney and General Armistead are pursuing very different schemes for the disposition of the Indians in Florida. The former hangs nearly all he captures with arms in their hands; the latter accepts their submission and gives them passports to negroia.

Female Homicides.—Two colored women were convicted of manslaughter in New York on Tuesday last; their names are Phebe and Catharine Squires. Their victim was a black girl, named Susanna De Castra, whom they killed with a flat iron, in an affray last November.

Fire at Utica.—On the morning of the 4th inst. a large wooden building on Nail Creek, owned and occupied by Messrs. Colson, Gaston and Irvins, in West Utica, was destroyed by fire. It was occupied as a tallow chandlery, fur-dressing, and saleratus factory.

Fatal Casualty.—A two horse mail stage, which runs between Galena and Dubuque, while on the Mississippi, broke through the ice on the 30th ult., and the mail, horses, carriage, and a passenger named Taylor, all went to the bottom.

Supposed Murderers.—A woman who has been residing at Rochester, N. Y. for some time, was arrested a few days ago, and charged with the commission of three murders about two years since. Others are implicated who are yet at large.

Destructive Fire.—The Railroad Depot at Clinton, Miss. was recently destroyed by fire, with all its contents. About 300 bales of cotton and a large quantity of other merchandize were consumed, occasioning a loss of $40,000.

A Beautiful Pair.—A man named Peter R. Keogh, and his good lady, were recently committed to Chicago jail for shoplifting.

Brevities.

We call the attention of our readers to the following remarks, on a subject which at this time is exciting very general interest—the gentleman who handed it in for publication, has had ample means for testing the science and skill of Dr. Partridge, and we believe he has no other motive than the public good, in giving publicity to his opinions:

Perhaps there is not a disease to which we are subject, that has so generally baffled the skill of our most eminent Physicians and Surgeons, as Deafness. From the complicated organisms of the ear, it follows necessarily that like the eyes, it must be subject to a great variety of diseases, while many of the diseases of the one cause, must have a striking analogy of those of the other. As the organ of the ear, however, is less exposed than that of the eye, it is without doubt, much more difficult to become acquainted with the innumerable sort of indispositions, and even with the exact hearing, which every particular part sustained in the various descriptions of hearing.

I have been led to make these few remarks, in consequence of having read an article some time since, published in the Medical Journal, relative to the successful treatment by Dr. H. Partridge of the city, of cases of deafness. I have taken considerable pains to make myself acquainted with such cases as circumstances permitted me to examine, and am much gratified in being able to add my testimony to that of the many, who have experienced his beneficial cure and skill. His mode of treatment, and the remedies employed, while differing considerably from those generally used, are still among the most simple, while the benefits derived by those patients under his care, in cases of deafness and other diseases of the ear, are indeed very great—those persons, therefore, who are suffering under this distressing complaint, and consequently deprived of much of the pleasures of social intercourse, and the greater inconvenience in the transaction of business, are advised to give the Doctor a call.

H.

Strabismus or Squinting.—Within the last three months, Dr. Cunneen has cured forty-two persons of squinting. Some of these had turned outwards, with thirty-eight the obliquity was inwards from infancy. We have seen a number of these cases. The position of the eyes now appears perfect—no one could possibly tell that there had existed a previous deformity. Several had been operated on once or twice before by persons incompetent;—this had made the operation exceedingly difficult, on account of abnormal tendons. And consequently great caution should be used in the choice of surgeons in the first attempt if persons are anxious to be relieved. Dr. Cunneen's success in curing, as a matter of course, proves his skill. So far, he has had no equal in this country, and perhaps in no other. Certainly, no one has pretended to do it with the operation without assistance. But this he has done with the greatest facility in upwards of twenty instances, including the most conspicuous of the most respectable physicians and gentlemen in Philadelphia, by a most ingenious apparatus of his own invention. The operation was consummated on a highly respectable young negress of the city, before dispersed of in a summary manner, by "hanging all public defaulters and banishing the swindlers."

Arson.—An American, named E. W. Brewster, was on the 3d instant, arrested at Quebec for arson, in setting fire to a house in St. John street, which he had hired, and on which he had effected an insurance for £200.

Fatal Casualty.—A man named George Lewis was knocked overboard from the schooner Levant, on Friday evening last, and drowned. The vessel was going from Severn river to Norfolk, Va.

Erinson's Propeller.—It is stated that a merchant of Boston is building a ship at Medford, to be provided with steam power, on Ericsson's principle. It is estimated that the cost will be $70,000.

Ohio, but Right.—Gen. Larkin, foreman of the grand jury, Baltimore, has presented to the judge of the city court, the practice by magistrates, of committing accused persons for further examination

Another Defaulter.—The cashier of the Chicopee (Mass.) Bank, is said to be a defaulter to the amount of $12,000 to $13,000. His bond, however, affords ample security against a loss to the Bank.

The Prince of Canada.—Baron Sydenham missed his proclamation, for the union of the provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, on the 5th instant. The union dates from the 10th of February.

Capital Punishment.—The House of Representatives of Massachusetts has passed a bill abolishing capital punishments, except for offences against life.

The Pittsburgh Banks are still paying out specie on all their obligations.

Burned to Death.—A distressing occurrence took place in Horsham Township, Montgomery county, on the night of the 5th inst., at the public house of Mr. Jacob Kirk. An unusual light being discovered in an upper room, a number of neighbors proceeded to the house and, upon ascending to the chamber, found the housekeeper, Sarah Swisher, burned in a shocking manner and lying amid the flames of her half consumed bed. The fire was speedily extinguished, but the unfortunate woman was dead, and the cause of the accident can only be conjectured. No other person was in the house at the time, and as several fragments of burnt clothing were found between the kitchen and the chamber, it is supposed that the dress of the deceased took fire in the former place, and that she ran up to her room in the hope of smothering the flames in the bed clothes.

New York Stockholders.—A meeting of the New York Stockholders of the U. S. Bank was held at the City Hotel in that city on Monday evening last, but as there was a great diversity of opinion in relation to the affairs of the Bank, and the kind of feeling required to save those interested from losses, no action was effected, and those assembled adjourned to meet again on Tuesday night. It was stated at the meeting that $7,000,000 worth of the stock is held in New York.

Shot Machine.—Mr. Levi Maguin of Baltimore has invented a machine for casting shot, which will cast one thousand leaden balls in a minute, and may be made to produce ten times as many by increasing the number of moulds. The machine contains a number of moulds, which, pass with a rotary motion under a kettle of melted lead, from which they are filled, and is so constructed that it may be carried from place to place. It is a great acquisition and will no doubt prove extremely useful.

Counterfeit Scrip.—Counterfeits of the Indiana State Scrip, of the $50 plate, have been put in circulation at the West, so ably executed as to render it *extremely difficult* to distinguish the false from the genuine? The only discoverable difference is in the filling up and the color of the ink and paper, which in the counterfeits are heavy and dark.

Letter Against Flies.—A correspondent of the Boston Times gives the annexed receipt for preventing flies from "making tracks" on furniture. "Let a bunch of leeks soak four, five or six days in a pail full of water, and wash your picture or any other piece of furniture with it. The flies will never come near any thing so washed."

Marine Disasters.—The Pilot Boat U States, of Baltimore, went ashore in a snow storm on the 5th inst. near Smith's Island, and was totally lost. The crew were saved. The schr. Tigress of Georgetown, D. C., bound for Baltimore, was discovered on Wednesday aground below Norfolk dismasted and abandoned.

A Flood Expected.—It is stated that three times more moisture has fallen in the vale of the Mississippi during the month of January, than in common. Such an unusual fall of rain and snow will keep the river very high until the spring floods, when a vast overflow must bathe consequence.

The Florida Indians.—Col. Harney and General Armistead are pursuing very different schemes for the disposition of the Indians in Florida. The former hangs nearly all he captures with arms in their hands; the latter accepts their submission and gives them passports to negroia.

Female Homicides.—Two colored women were convicted of manslaughter in New York on Tuesday last; their names are Phebe and Catharine Squires. Their victim was a black girl, named Susanna De Castra, whom they killed with a flat iron, in an affray last November.

Fire at Utica.—On the morning of the 4th inst. a large wooden building on Nail Creek, owned and occupied by Messrs. Colson, Gaston and Irvins, in West Utica, was destroyed by fire. It was occupied as a tallow chandlery, fur-dressing, and saleratus factory.

Fatal Casualty.—A two horse mail stage, which runs between Galena and Dubuque, while on the Mississippi, broke through the ice on the 30th ult., and the mail, horses, carriage, and a passenger named Taylor, all went to the bottom.

Supposed Murderers.—A woman who has been residing at Rochester, N. Y. for some time, was arrested a few days ago, and charged with the commission of three murders about two years since. Others are implicated who are yet at large.

Destructive Fire.—The Railroad Depot at Clinton, Miss. was recently destroyed by fire, with all its contents. About 300 bales of cotton and a large quantity of other merchandize were consumed, occasioning a loss of $40,000.

A Beautiful Pair.—A man named Peter R. Keogh, and his good lady, were recently committed to Chicago jail for shoplifting.

Brevities.

We call the attention of our readers to the following remarks, on a subject which at this time is exciting very general interest—the gentleman who handed it in for publication, has had ample means for testing the science and skill of Dr. Partridge, and we believe he has no other motive than the public good, in giving publicity to his opinions:

Perhaps there is not a disease to which we are subject, that has so generally baffled the skill of our most eminent Physicians and Surgeons, as Deafness. From the complicated organisms of the ear, it follows necessarily that like the eyes, it must be subject to a great variety of diseases, while many of the diseases of the one cause, must have a striking analogy of those of the other. As the organ of the ear, however, is less exposed than that of the eye, it is without doubt, much more difficult to become acquainted with the innumerable sort of indispositions, and even with the exact hearing, which every particular part sustained in the various descriptions of hearing.

I have been led to make these few remarks, in consequence of having read an article some time since, published in the Medical Journal, relative to the successful treatment by Dr. H. Partridge of the city, of cases of deafness. I have taken considerable pains to make myself acquainted with such cases as circumstances permitted me to examine, and am much gratified in being able to add my testimony to that of the many, who have experienced his beneficial cure and skill. His mode of treatment, and the remedies employed, while differing considerably from those generally used, are still among the most simple, while the benefits derived by those patients under his care, in cases of deafness and other diseases of the ear, are indeed very great—those persons, therefore, who are suffering under this distressing complaint, and consequently deprived of much of the pleasures of social intercourse, and the greater inconvenience in the transaction of business, are advised to give the Doctor a call.

H.

Strabismus or Squinting.—Within the last three months, Dr. Cunneen has cured forty-two persons of squinting. Some of these had turned outwards, with thirty-eight the obliquity was inwards from infancy. We have seen a number of these cases. The position of the eyes now appears perfect—no one could possibly tell that there had existed a previous deformity. Several had been operated on once or twice before by persons incompetent;—this had made the operation exceedingly difficult, on account of abnormal tendons. And consequently great caution should be used in the choice of surgeons in the first attempt if persons are anxious to be relieved. Dr. Cunneen's success in curing, as a matter of course, proves his skill. So far, he has had no equal in this country, and perhaps in no other. Certainly, no one has pretended to do it with the operation without assistance. But this he has done with the greatest facility in upwards of twenty instances, including the most conspicuous of the most respectable physicians and gentlemen in Philadelphia, by a most ingenious apparatus of his own invention. The operation was consummated on a highly respectable young negress of the city, before dispersed of in a summary manner, by "hanging all public defaulters and banishing the swindlers."

Arson.—An American, named E. W. Brewster, was on the 3d instant, arrested at Quebec for arson, in setting fire to a house in St. John street, which he had hired, and on which he had effected an insurance for £200.

Fatal Casualty.—A man named George Lewis was knocked overboard from the schooner Levant, on Friday evening last, and drowned. The vessel was going from Severn river to Norfolk, Va.

Erinson's Propeller.—It is stated that a merchant of Boston is building a ship at Medford, to be provided with steam power, on Ericsson's principle. It is estimated that the cost will be $70,000.

Ohio, but Right.

THE OLIO.

Variety is the spice of life,
That gives it all its flavor.

From the New Orleans Picayune.

The House of Lords.

Got out! this 'ere the House of Lords!
Vich I must mouch with red 'broke!
And that 'ere coat of arms! yes, this the shield—
Vhere many now this thistle?
And these 'ere Lords! mouths' their bone,
And lettin' on the bonanza—
And these 'ere Bishops!—in their pockets,
Double 'pon their shoulder!

Good gracious! that the Chancellor,
On the floor, on a big cushion,
And which they call the 'woolsack' vhere
To sit on comes to visitors;
And that 'ere Prince Metternich, a
Prettier of his number!
And Brougham, bluish' of his nose
Very much about his beard!

Well, lucky, gaby, what a one!
And that 'ere one is Lyndhurst;
A "Baron boy," and vho is he
A Lord, nor think it sin, dured;
And that old chap, green Wellington!
Lookin' as in a dose;
Shuttin upon his breast, and his
Old hat upon—his nose!

It's very strange, and very like
A regular superstition;
A set like these, possible to
A whole nation's condition;
The only greatest lookers' sees
Of people 'bout the floor,
Is these in black knee breeches there,
Attendin' at the door.

And this 'ere little "gallery,"
Carpeted with red baize!
And the "Reporters," wakin' off
All that down stairs they says
The door-keepers a lookin' for,
And favorite' if you speak;
Makin' you take your hat off, and
Your elbow into, if they creak.

A voice below stops out, "My hon
Message from House of Commons"—
A wakin' up the Bishops, and
The Lords, and other nuts' nuts;
And then the Chancellor gets up,
And tells them down, very grand:
And then walks back, the "message" in
A red bag, in his hand.

And then they take the message out.
Then they sits message cross;
And then they have a bill, and which
Repeat we doesn't need;
And then there comes "My Sich" again,
And this another walk
And then another lookin' at, and
Then there's no laugh!

And then, to have the kind of fun
They make of a debate;
One half they say you doesn't hear,
And to'ther's nothin' great;
And then of what you retches, of
"The interests", and stoppings!
It's every word "—mistake,"
White between is the explainer

The Duke of Wellington gets up!
And then you holds your breath
The Tarrowby's a talkin' and
The Whigs is still in doubt;
And then it all be done by hat,
Then staggers as he lifts it;
And then it bursts his fingers, so
From hand to hand he shifts it!

And then you hear a sound, betwixt
A squeakin' and a rumblin';
And then it comes and then it stops—
Then three or four come tumblin'
And now you catch a sentence—now
You lose 'bout all—
And if you can help cryin', you'll
Be sure to laugh!

"Gentlemen"—oh! "Close this gallery"—
Hello! what's this about!
"Come you must move, sir—Council of they
Aint turnin' of us out!
It's personal' about my a word—
They say you're strivers was there;
Dont talk—we just remember it
A personal affair!

DRAMA.

NEWSPAPER WATCHWORD.—The extraordinary cries of the watchmen of Dronthein cannot but appear singular to the stranger. As each hour elapses, they are prepared with a different kind of exhortation or prayer; which, forming a sort of tune or chaunt, is sung by them during the dreary hour of the night. The following is a curious specimen of one of them; it is a literal translation:

Ho! the Watchman, ho!
The clock has struck two,
Framed be God, our Lord!
Now is the time to go to bed,
The housewife and her maid,
The housewife and her maid,
The wind is south east,
Hallelujah! praise be to God, our Lord!

The sentinel, or watchman, is armed with an instrument as remarkable as his cry, being nothing less than a long pole, at the end of which is a ball well fortified with iron spikes. This formidable weapon is called *morgen stierne*, or morning star does little, however, but grace the hand of the Norwegian watchman, honesty is so common in the North, and theft, as well as most other crimes, are comparatively of such rare occurrence, that his office is attended with little trouble or danger.—*Travels in Norway, by A. DeCapell Brooke, M. A.*

HIBERNO CELTIC.—The following will do for a tolerable *Hibernicism*. "Wat you say, Sich?" said a Frenchman, to a raw lag trotter, who had just stepped from a newly arrived vessel on the Levee, "I no understand you, fair?"

"I want to know do ye's sell on tick in this town, and can you tell me where to buy a dinner —on tick, mind ye?"

"Tick, sair?"

"Yis, where do they sell on tick?"

"Sell tick?"

"To be sure, sell tick, can ye tell a poor hungry divil where to get a dinner on tick?"

"Hair," said the polite Frenchman, with a bow, "I no comprehend sell tick," and he walk off.

"Why, the spalpeen of a fellow thinks I'm talking Irish," said Pat, "telling me he doesn't understand Celtic, when it's pure mother English I've been talking all the time.—*N. O. Pic.*

"A TOWN ABOVE THE COMMON-REA."—The editor of the Reading, Pa. Gazette gets quite rhapsodical while describing a sleigh-ride. He scorns vulgar prose and breaks out in poetry, the following verse from which is a fair sample:

"From sparkling eyes to drink in draughts of bliss,
From rosy lips to steal the hoarded store—
And whilst the fair one presses your side espress,
To secret her to the dirtiest recess—"

Oh! Moses! The same editor winds up with the emphatic exclamation—"we are not married, thank heaven!" He ought to be thankful, for if he had a wife she would probably lock him out doors after such "gunings on," and compel him to wander about in the snow-as all night.

CURIOUS ECONOMY.—There never was a wiser maxim than that of Franklin. "Nothing is cheap which you do not want." Yet how perfectly unwise many people are on the subject of buying cheap things. "I'll tell me why you have bought that coat of dear plate!" asked the husband of one of these notable bargainers. "Dear me," replied the wife, "you know it as always my plan to lay up things against time of need; *she knows her you may die, and I may marry a man with the same name as that on the door plate!*"

FAIR TRADE.—A country gentleman, after being joined in the chains of wedlock, was asked, by one of the guests, a friend, if he had paid the parson, to which he replied, "Oh, no, he's using father for a pack of lunne, and we'll make a turn."

"Jim!"
"Well!"
"I can't find any thing soft enough to sit on."
"Try your head."

WHOPPERS.—The clown, Pentland, says his sister Peggy has such everlasting big feet that she has to get out of bed to turn over!

CONSIDERATE.—Why is a young lady like a careful housewife?—Because her sweet is so little as she can make it.

The Wronged Husband.

"The painful sight may I never know,
That anxious watches o'er a wandering heart."
—Mrs. Tighe.

It was past midnight, and she sat leaning her pale cheek on her hand, counting the dull ticking of the French clock that stood on the marble chimney-piece, and ever and anon lifting her weary eyes to its dial to mark the lapse of another hour. It was past midnight, and yet he returned not! She arose, and taking up the lamp, whose pale rays alone illumed the solitary chamber, proceeded with solemn step to a small inner apartment. The curtains of his little bed were drawn aside, and the young mother gazed on her sleeping child! What a vivid contrast did that glowing cheek and smiling brow present, to he by its rosy chamber, to the faded, yet beautiful face that hung over him in tears! "Will he resemble his father?" was the thought that pained for a moment through her devoted heart, and a sigh was the only answer!

'Tis his well known touch—said she stops of the drowsy porter echoed through the lofty hall, as with a murmur on his lip, he drew the massy bolts and admitted his thoughtless master. "Four o'clock, Willie, is it not?" and he opening up the staircase—another moment he is in her chamber—in her arms!

No reproaches met the truant husband, none—save those she could not spare him, in her weary eye, and faded cheek—put these spoke to his heart.

"Julia, I have been a wandering husband."

"But you are come now, Charles, and all is well."

And all was well, for, from that hour, Charles Danvers became an altered man. Had his wife cast him with frowns and sullen tears, he had become a hardened libertine; but her affectionate caresses, the joy that danced in her sunken eye, the hectic flush that lit up her pallid cheek at his approach, were arguments he could not withstand. Married in early life, while he felt all the ardor, but not the esteem of love; possessed of a splendid fortune, and having hitherto had the entire command of his own pleasures, Danvers fell into that common error, of newly married men—the dread of being controlled. In vain did his parents, who beheld with sorrow the reproaches and misery he was heaping up for himself in after life, remonstrate; Charles Danvers turned a deaf ear to advice, and pursued, with companions every way unworthy of his society, the path of folly if not absolute guilt. The tavern, the club-room, the race-course, too often left his wife a solitary mourner, or a midnight watcher.

Thus the first three years of their wedded life had passed—to him in fevered and restless pleasure, to her in blighted hope, or unavailing regret. But this night crowned the pitiless forbearance of the neglected Julia with its just reward, and gave the death blow to folly in the house of Danvers. Returning with disgust from the house of the harvest table, her meekness and long suffering touched him to the soul; the film fell from his eyes, and Vice, in her own hideous deformity; stood unmasked before him.

Ten years have passed since that solitary midnight, when the young matron bent in tears over her sleeping boy. Behold her now: still in the pride of womanhood, surrounded by their cherub faces, who are listening ere they go to rest to her sweet voice, as it pours forth to the accompaniment of her harp an evening song of joy and subdety; while a manly form is bending over the music page to hide the tear of happiness and triumph that springs from a swelling bosom, as he contemplates the interesting group. Youthful matrons! ye who watch over a wandering, perhaps an erring heart—when a reproachful word or look of your lips towards a truant husband, imitate Julia Danvers, and remember, though hymen has chains, like the sword of Harmodius, they may be covered with flowers; that unkindness and irritability do but harden, if not wholly estrange the heart—while on the contrary patience and gentleness of manner (as water dropping on the flinty rock will in time wear it into softness) seldom fail to reclaim to happiness and virtue the Truant Husband.

Never Look Sad.

Never look sad—nothing so bad
As getting familiar with sorrow.
Treat him to-day in a cavalier way,
And he'll seek other quarters to morrow.

Long pass'd not weep could you but keep
At the bright side of every trial
Pharoah pass'd God is often most kind
When clouds rise heavy with denial

Let the sad day carry away
Its own little burden of sorrow,
Or you may miss half of the bliss
That comes in the lap of to-morrow.

Epigrams.

There is no kind of wit which pleases us more than a good, pungent epigram. In this description of humor the English language is very rich. In almost all our great poets we meet with epigrams continually, and they are scattered "thick as autumnal leaves" throughout the humbler walks of letters. Dr. Johnson has written one upon George II. and his poet-laureat, Cibber, which, for grave sarcasm, is almost unexcelled:

"Augustus still survives in Maro's strain,
And Spenser's verse prolongs Eliza's reign;
Great George's acts let Cibber sing,
For nature made the poet for the king."

One of the wits of Queen Anne's time thus writes concerning a notorious plagiarist by the name of Moore:

"Moore always smiles whenever he recites;
He smiles (we think) approving what he writes—
And yet in this no vanity is shown,
A modest man may well be what's not his own."

Here is another on Cibber:

"In merry old England it once was a rule
The king had his poet and also his fool:
But now we're so frugal I'd have you to know it,
That Cibber can serve both for fool and for poet."

Robert Tannahill, a Scotch poet, is the author of a pretty little epigram on woman:

"Nature, important in her whole,
When she design'd the sex entire,
In justice time, to make amends,
Made woman's tongue the longest."

Garrick is the author of a capital epigram on the John Hall, a physician and dramatist. We believe that it runs thus:

"For farces and physic
Has equal there name is:
His fancies are physic,
His physic a farce is."

DR. Aldridge's "five reasons for drinking" contain a good deal of humor mixed with their epigrammatic point, and undoubtedly give the true philosophy of the toper:

"Good wine, a friend, or being dry;
Or lest we should be, by and by;
Or any other reason why."

There is a smart epigram made by some wit on the circumstances of a card-playing young lady marrying her gardener:

"Trumps ever ruled the charming maid
Since all the world would garden her
The destinies turned up a queen
She married John the Gardener."

Byron, we believe, is the author of the following couplet on a selfish politician, who committed his speeches to memory:

"I had no heart you say—but I deny it—
He has a heart—he gets her speeches by it."

In "Don Juan" there is a great number of excellent epigrams, but so mixed up are they with the reflections of the poet that separation would materially dull their point. We conclude with one from Tom Moore:

"I never gave a kiss, says Fum,
To naughty man, for I abhor it;
She never gave a kiss, no time
She'd take one then and thank you for it."
N. Y. Mirror.

BY AND BY.—There is one point, says the Boston Mail, in the evidence introduced during the trial of Mrs. Kinney, on which the spectators who heard the testimony of the witnesses are quite undecided: it is, whether Mrs. Kinney's husband was dying, said "Good! by George!" or "Good bye, George!"

SENTIMENT.—You may place a hundred heads full of fragrant herbs and flowers before the night-ingale, yet he wishes not, in his constant heart, for more than the sweet breath of his beloved rose.

The Blighted.

Oh, treasured thou by passion's shrine,
Dear relic of the by-gone year;
Say what remains of her who gave?
The vain regret—the useless tear.
The sleeping hushes—the throbbing bone—
The unavailing of that shadowy word,
To which had answered—none—oh! never,
Way is that light quick step unheard!

Where in those splendors is found,
That such a object of no one claims?
A word to last on empty sound—
Alas! it is—it was—her name!
It was—yes she was once! so gay,
As full of life, as night that lives;
The tinsel—the folly—hath passed away
But not the pang her memory gives.

Bright were! thy beauty bright as now
A thousand dreams of rapture gave;
Thy sunny eyes, her radiant brow,
The love, light laughter of her tone
Gazing on them, again she stands
Before us, as in days of old,
With all her young heart's shining bands,
And all its many coats of gold.

Till as I view thee, silken tress,
I feel within my suffering heart—
The cut within now my right eye thine,
All dim of sight, and dark!
Oh! then that sweet life's dearest prize,
That now art but a thought of pain;
Why do thy tones—thy laughing eyes—
Rise up to wring my soul again?

A noon in vain; the sun that beams
In still the sun we looked upon:
My hand, my heart, and, ah, dreams,
Seem still for thine to clasp its own,
My heart resists all time—all change,
And finds no other form so dear
My memory, wherever'er I range.
Clings to the spot where thou wert near.

Change! thou wert all life's mystery:
To me, the billowy, bounding wave—
The wide green earth—the fair blue sky,
Form but the landscape of thy grave!

Oh! bitter in their hour of life
Who cannot hope—who may not die—
I linger in a world of strife,
Whilst thou art in the happy sky!
I envy thee the peace thou hast
And but 'tis sin, the knee would bow,
That He who made thee all thou wert,
Would make me all—that thou art now!

Master Humphrey's Clock.

BY CHARLES DICKENS.

[Continued from our last.]

This hopeful pupil edified by the above terrible reproval, the bachelor turned to another.

"But if we talk of examples to be shunned," said he, "if we come to boys that should be a warning and a beacon to all their fellows, here's the one, and I hope you won't spare him. This is the lad, sir; this one with the blue eyes and light hair. This is a swimmer, sir, this fellow—a diver, Lord save us! This is a boy, sir, who had a fancy for plunging into eighteen feet of water with his clothes on, and bringing up a blind man's dog, who was being drowned by the weight of his chain and collar, while his master stood wringing his hands upon the bank, bewailing the loss of his guide and friend. I met the boy two guineas anonymously, sir," added the bachelor, in his peculiar whisper, "directly I heard of it; but never mention it on any account, for he hasn't the most idea that it came from me."

Having disposed of this culprit, the bachelor turned to another, and from him to another, and so on through the whole array, laying for their wholesome restriction within due bounds, the same cutting emphasis on such of their propensities as were dearest to his heart and were unquestionably preferable to his own precept and example. Thoroughly persuaded in the end that he had made them miserable by his severity, he dismissed them with a small present, and an admonition to walk quietly home, without any leapings, scuffings, or turnings out of the way; which injunction (he informed the schoolmaster in the same audible confidence) he did not think he could have obeyed when he was a boy, had his life depended on it.

Hailing these little tokens of the bachelor's disposition as so many assurances of his own welcome course from that time, the schoolmaster parted from him with a light heart and joyous spirits, and deemed himself one of the happiest men on earth. The windows of the two old houses were ruddy again with the reflection of the cheerful fires that burnt within; and the bachelor and his friend, pausing to look upon them as they returned from their evening walk, spoke softly of the bountiful child, and looked round upon the churchyard with a sigh.

CHAPTER THE FIFTY-THIRD.

Nell was stirring early in the morning, and having discharged her household tasks, and put everything in order for the good schoolmaster (though surely against his will, for he would have spared her the pains,) took down, from its nail by the fireside, a little bundle of keys with which the bachelor had formally invested her on the previous day, and went out alone to visit the old church.

The sky was serene and bright, the air clear, perfumed with the fresh scent of newly-fallen leaves, and grateful to every sense. The neighboring stream sparkled, and rolled onward with a tuneful motion; the dew glistened on the green mounds, like tears shed by good spirits over the dead.

Some young children sported among the tombs, and hid from each other with laughing faces. They had an infant with them, and had laid it down asleep upon a child's grave, in a little bed of leaves. It was a new grave—the resting-place, perhaps, of some little creature, who, meek and patient in its illness, had often sat and watched them, and now seemed to their minds scarcely changed.

She drew near and asked one of them whose grave it was. The child answered that that was not its name; it was a garden—his brother's. It was greener, he said, than all the other gardens, and the birds loved it better because he had been used to feed them. When he had done speaking, he looked at her with a smile, and kneeling down and nestling for a moment with his cheek against the turf, bounded merrily away.

She passed the church, gazing upward at its old tower, went through the wicket-gate, and so into the village. The old sexton leaning on a crutch, was taking the air at his cottage door, and gave her good morrow.

"You are better!" said the child, stopping to speak with him.

"Ay, surely," returned the old man. "I'm thankful to say, much better."

"You will be quite well, soon."

"With Heaven's love, and a little patience. But come in, come in."

The old man limped on before, and warning her of the downward step, which he achieved himself with no small dudiculty, led the way into his little cottage.

"It is but one room you see. There is another up above, but the stair has got harder to climb of late years, and I never use it. I'm thinking of taking to it again next summer though."

The child wondered how a grey-haired man like him—one of his grade too—could talk of time so easily. He saw her eyes wandering to the beds that hung upon the wall, and smiled.

"I warrant now," he said, "that you think all those are used in making graves."

"Indeed, I wondered that you wanted so many."

"And well you might. I am a gardener. I dig the ground, and plant things that are to live and grow. My works don't all moulder away and rot in the earth. You see that spade in the centre?"

"The very old one—so notched and worn!"

"That's the sexton's spade, and it's a well-used one, as you see. We're healthy people here, but it has done a power of work. If it could speak now, that spade, it would tell you of many an unexpected job that it and I have done together; but I forget 'em, for my memory's a poor one. That's nothing new," he added hastily. "It always was."

"There are flowers and shrubs to speak to your other work," said the child.

"Oh yes. And tall trees. But they are not so separated from the sexton's labors as you think."

"No?"

"Not in my mind, and recollection—such as it is," said the old man. "Indeed they often keep it. For say that I planted such a tree for such a man. There it stands to remind me that he died. When I look at its brand shadow, and remember what it was in his time, it keeps me to the age of any other work, and I can tell you pretty nearly when I made his grave."

"But it may remind you of one who is still alive," said the child.

"Of twenty that are dead, in connexion with that one who lives, then," rejoined the old man; "with husband, parents, brothers, sisters, children, friends—a store at least. So it happens that the sexton's spade gets worn and battered. I shall need a new one—next summer."

The child looked quickly toward him, thinking that he jested with his age and infirmity; but the unconscious sexton was quite in earnest.

"Ah!" he said, after a brief silence. "People never learn. They never learn. It's only we who turn up the ground, where nothing grows and everything decays, who think of such things as these—who think of them properly, I mean. You have been into the church?"

"I am going there now," the child replied.

"There's an old well there," said the sexton, "right underneath the belfry; a deep, dark, echoing well. Forty years ago, you had only to let down the bucket till the first knot in the rope was the brim of the windlass, and you heard it splashing in the cold dull water. By little and little the water fell away, so that in ten years after that, a second knot was made, and you must unwind so much rope, or the bucket swung light and empty at the end. In ten years' time, the water fell again, and a third knot was made. In ten years more the well dried up; and now, if you lower the bucket till your arms are tired and let out nearly all the cord, you'll hear it *at* a sudden clanking and rattling on the ground below, with a sound of being so deep and so far down, that your heart leaps into your mouth, and you start away as if you were falling in."

"A dreadful place to come on in the dark!" exclaimed the child, who had followed the old man's looks and words until she seemed to stand upon the brink.

"What is it but a grave?" said the sexton. "What else! And which of our old folks, knowing all this thought, as the spring subsided, of their own failing strength, and lessening life? Not one!"

"Are you very old yourself?" asked the child, involuntarily.

"I shall be eight-five—next summer."

"You still work when you are well?"

"Work! To be sure. You shall see my gardens hereabout. Look at the window there. I made, and have kept, that plot of ground entirely with my own hands. By this time next year I shall hardly see the sky; the boughs will have grown so thick. I have my winter work at night besides."

He opened, as he spoke, a cupboard close to where he sat, and produced some miniature bones, carved in a heavily manner and made of old wood.

"Some gentlefolks who are fond of ancient days, and what belongs to them," he said, "like to buy these keepsakes from our church and ruins. Sometimes I make them of scraps of oak, that turn up here and there; sometimes of bits of coffins, which the vaults have long preserved. See here—this is a little chest of the last kind, clasped at the edges with fragments of brass plates that had writing on 'em once, though it would be hard to read it now. I haven't many by me at this time of year, but these shelves will be full, next summer."

The child admired and praised his work, and shortly afterward departed; thinking in the simplicity of her heart, that this old man, drawing from his pursuits, and everything around him, one after another, never contemplated its application to himself; and, while he dwelt upon the uncertainty of human life, seemed both in word and deed to deem himself immortal. But her musings did not stop here, for she was wise enough to think that by a good and merciful adjustment this must be human nature, and that the old sexton, with his place for next summer, was but a type of all mankind.

Full of these meditations she reached the church. It was easy to find the key belonging to the outer door, for each was labelled on a scrap of yellow parchment. Its very turning in the lock awoke a hollow sound, and when she entered with a faltering step, the echoes that it raised in closing, made her start.

Everything in our lives, whether of good or evil, effects us most by contrast. If the pause of the simple village had moved the child more strongly, because of the dark and troubled ways that lay beyond and through which she had journeyed with such failing feet, what was the deep impression of finding herself alone in that solemn building: where the very light, coming through sunken windows, seemed old and grey; and the air, redolent of earth and mould, seemed laden with decay purified by time of all its grosser stenes, and sighed through arch and aisle, and clustered pillars, like the breath of ages gone! Here was the broken pavement, worn so long ago by pious feet, that Time, stealing on the pilgrims' steps, had trodden out their track, and left it crumbling in their room. Here were the rotten beam, the sinking arch, the sapped and mouldering wall, the lowly touch of earth, the stately trash on which no epitaph remained,—all,—marble, stone, iron, wood, and dust, one common atonement of ruin. The best work and the worst, the plainest and the richest, the sweetest and the least imposing—both of Heaven's work and Man's, all found one common level here, and told one common tale.

Some part of the edifice had been a baronial chapel, and here were effigies of warriors stretched upon their beds of stone with folded hands, cross-legged—those who had fought in the Holy Wars—girded with their swords, and cased in armor as they had lived. Some of these knights had their own weapons, helmets, coats of mail, hanging upon the walls hard by, and dangling from rusty hooks. Broken and dilapidated as they were, they yet retained their ancient form, and something of their ancient aspect. Time violent deeds live after men upon the earth, and traces of war and bloodshed will survive in mournful shapes, long after those who wrathed the desolation are but atoms of earth themselves. The child sat down in this old, silent place—the stark figures on the tombs made it more quiet there than elsewhere, to her fancy—and, gazing around with a feeling of awe, tempered with a calm delight felt that now she was happy, and at rest. She took a little from the shelf, and read; then laying it down, thought of the summer days and the bright spring-time that would come—of the rays of sun that would fall in solemn span the sleeping forms—of the leaves that would flutter at the window, and play in glistening shadows on the pavement—of the songs of birds, and growth of buds and blossoms out of doors—of the sweet air, that would steal in and gently move the tattered banners overhead. What if the spot awakened thoughts of death! Die who would, it would still remain the same: there sighs and sounds would still go on as happily as ever. It would be no pain to sleep amidst them.

She closed the book—very slowly and often turning back to gaze again—and coming to a low door, which led into the tower, opened it, and climbed the winding stair in darkness; save where she looked down through narrow loopholes on the place she had left, or caught a glimmering vision of the dusty bells. At length she gained the roof of the second and stood upon the turret-top.—

Oh! the glory of the sudden burst of light; the freshness of the fields and woods, stretching away on every side and meeting the bright sky; the cattle grazing in the pasturage; the smoke, that coming from among the trees, seemed to rise upward from the green earth; the children yet at their gambols down below—all, every thing so beautiful and happy. It was like passing from death to life; it was drawing nearer to Heaven. Who will wonder that the child looked round and wept!

The children were gone by the time she came in sight of the porch, and looked the door. As she passed the school-house she could hear the busy hum of voices. Her friend had begun his labors only that day. The cedar grove border, and, looking back, she saw the boys come trooping out, and disperse themselves with merry shouts and play. "It's a good thing," thought the child, "I'm very glad they pass the church." And then she stopped, to fancy how the noise would sound inside, and hear gently it would seem to die away upon the ear.

Again that day, yes, twice again, she stole back to the old chapel, and in her former seat read from the same book, or indulged the same quiet train of thought. Even when it had grown dusk, and the shadows of coming night made it more solemn still, the child remained like one rooted to the spot, and had no fear or thought of stirring.

They found her here at last, and took her home. She looked pale, but very happy, until they separated for the night: and then as the poor schoolmaster stooped down to kiss her cheek, he felt a tear upon his lips.

CHAPTER THE FIFTY-FOURTH.

The bachelor, among his many occupations, found in the old church a constant source of interest and amusement. Taking that pride in it which men conceive for the wonders of their own little world, he had made its history his study; and many a summer day within its walls, and many a winter's night beside the parsonage fire, had found the bachelor still poring over and adding to his goodly store of tale and legend.

As he was not one of those rough spirits who would strip his Truth of every little shadowy vestment in which time and tossing fiction love to array her—and some of which become her pleasantly enough, serving, like the waters of her well, to add new graces to the charms they hide' content and half suggest, and to awaken interest and pursuit rather than languor and indifference—as, unlike this stern and obdurate class, he loved to see the goddess crowned with those garlands of wild flowers which tradition weaves for her gentle wearing, and which are often freshest in their homeliest shapes,—he trod with a light step and hore with a light hand upon the dust of centuries, unwilling to demolish any of the airy shrines that had been raised above it, if one good feeling or affection of the human heart were hiding therein. Thus, in the case of an ancient coffin of rough stone, supposed for many generations to contain the bones of a certain baron, who, after ravaging, with out, and throne, and plunder, in foreign lands, came back with a penitent and sorrowing heart to die at home, but which had been lately shown by learned antiquaries to be no such thing, as the baron in question (so they contended) had died hard in battle, gnashing his teeth, and cursing with his last breath, the bachelor stoutly maintained that the old tale was the true one; that the baron, repenting him of the evil, had done great charities, and meekly given up the ghost; and that if ever baron went to heaven, that baron was then at peace. In like manner, when the aforesaid antiquarians did argue and contend that a certain secret vault was not the tomb of a grey-haired lady who had been hanged and drawn and quartered by glorious Queen Bess for uncovering a wretched priest who fainted of thirst and hunger at her door, the bachelor did solemnly maintain against all comers that the church was hallowed by the said poor lady's ashes; that her remains had been collected in the night from four of the city's gates, and thither in secret brought, and there deposited: and the bachelor did further (being highly excited at such times) deny that they were defiled with evil secret nor unworthy precursor glory of the meanest woman in her realm who had a merciful and tender heart. As to the assertion that the flat stone near the door was not the grave of the miser who had disowned his only child and left a sum of money to the church to buy a peal of bells, the bachelor did readily admit the same, and that the place had given birth to no such man. In a word, he would have every stone and plate of brass, the monument only of deeds whose memory should survive. All others he was willing to forget. They might be buried in consecrated ground, but he would have them buried deep, and never brought to light again.

It was from the lips of such a tutor, that the child learnt her easy task. Already improved, beyond all telling, by the silent building and the peaceful beauty of the spot in which it stood—majestic age surrounded by perpetual youth—it seemed to her when she heard these things, sacred to all goodness and virtue. It was another world, where sin and sorrow never came; a tranquil place of rest, where nothing evil entered.

When the bachelor had given her in connexion with almost every tomb and flat grave stone some history of its own, he took her down into the old crypt, now a mere dull vault, and showed her how it had been ligisted up in the time of the monks, and how, amid lamps depending from the roof, and swinging censers exhaling scented odours, and habits glittering with gold and silver, and pictures, and precious stuffs, and jewels, old flashing and glistering through the low arches, the throng of aged rogues had been merry in time heard there at midnight in old days, while hooded figures knelt and prayed atonnal, and told their rosaries of beads. Thence, he took her above ground again, and showed her, high up in the old walls, small galleries; where the nuns had been wont to glide along—dimly seen in their dark dresses no far off—or to pause like gloomy shadows, listening to the prayers. He showed her, too, how the warriors, whose figures rested on the tombs, had worn those rotting scraps of armour up above—how this had been a helmet, and that a shield, and that a gauntlet—and how they had wielded the great two-handed swords, and beaten down men with yonder mace. All that he told the child she treasured in her mind; and sometimes, when she spoke at night from dreams of those old times, and rising from her bed looked out at the dark church, she almost hoped to see the windows lighted up, and hear the organ's swell, and sound of voices on the rushing wind.

The old sexton soon got better, and was about again. From him the child learnt many other things, though of a different kind. He was not able to work, but one day there was a grave to be made, and he came *to superintend* the man who dug it. He was in a talkative mood; and the child, at first standing by his side, and afterward sitting on the grass at his feet, with her thoughtful face raised toward his, began to converse with him.

Now the man who did the sexton's duty was a little older than he, though much more active. But he was deaf; and when the sexton (who peradventure, on a pouch, might have walked a mile with great difficulty in half-a dozen hours) exchanged a remark with him about his work, the child could not help thinking that he did so with an impatient hand of pity for his infirmity, as if he were himself the strongest and heartiest man alive.

"I'm sorry to see there is this to do," said the child, when she approached, "I heard of no one having died."

"She lived in another hamlet, my dear," returned the sexton. "Three mile away."

"Was she young?"

"Yo—yes," said the sexton; "not more than sixty-four, I think. David, was she more than sixty-four?"

David, who was digging hard, heard nothing of the question. The sexton, as he could not reach to touch him with his crutch, and was too infirm to rise without assistance, called his attention by throwing a little mould upon his red nightcap.

"What's the matter now?" said David, looking up.

"How old was Becky Morgan?" repeated David.

"Yes," replied the sexton; adding in a half compassionate, half irritable tone, which the old man couldn't hear, "you're getting very deaf, Davy, very deaf to be sure."

The old man stopped in his work, and closing his hands with a piece of slate he had by him for the purpose—and escaping off, in the process, the essence of Heaven knows how many Becky Morgans—set himself to consider the subject.

"Let me think," quoth he. "I saw last night what they had put upon the coffin—was it seventy-nine?"

"No, no," said the sexton.

"Ah yes, it was though," returned the old man, with a sigh. "For I remember thinking she was very near our age. Yes, it was seventy-nine."

"Are you sure you didn't mistake a figure, Davy?" asked the sexton, with signs of some emotion.

"What?" said the old man. "Say that again."

"He's very deaf. He's very deaf indeed," cried the sexton, pointedly; "are you sure you're right about the figures?"

Broken.

She lay by the side of the moonlit stream,
Like a fair wild flower unblown—
For her mind was astray in a fairy dream,
And she lived in the mountains alone.

She had followed her love from her own native land,
Where one villagers never had been:
But the false one had gone with his mortal band,
For, for, from her own Evelean.

She sat 'neath the shade of the hawthorn tree,
That grew on the hill flat green,
And she heard a voice singing "Come, come, follow me"—
Evelean—Evelean—Evelean.

She followed, she followed, the villagers say,
For she never returned again;
And we anxiously sought her for many a day,
And we called her, but called her in vain.

They say that she lives with the good people still,
And oft 'neath the hawthorn grove
The villagers hear her sweet voice in the hill,
And sigh for the lost Evelean.

Agriculture.

The Culinary Garden.

ON SITUATIONS FIT FOR KITCHEN-GARDENS.

In a great place, the kitchen-garden, considered merely as such, should be so situated as to be convenient, and, at the same time, be concealed from the house. It should be sheltered but should by no means be shaded, or be crowded. If well ed round, it should be open and free on all sides, or at least to the south, east, and west, that the walls may be clothed with fruit trees on both side. Round these walls should be a slip of ground and an outer fence, capable of keeping off cattle. This slip of ground should be at least twenty feet broad, in order to afford a sufficient border for the trees, and a walk; but it may be as much more in breadth as may be necessary to give ground, with that enclosed by walls, for the supply of the family; and it may be enlarged on all sides, or on any particular side, for that purpose.

The exposure should be toward the south, and the aspect at some point between south-east and south-west; the ground sloping to those points in an easy manner. If quite flat, it seldom can be laid sufficiently dry; if very uneven, it is ill worked under many disadvantages. It may have a fall, however, of a foot in twenty, without being very inconvenient; but a fall of a foot in thirty is most desirable, by which the ground is sufficiently elevated, yet not too much so. If there be no natural stream that can be conducted through it, water should be conveyed from the nearest river, lake, or pond; soft water being most desirable for the use of the garden.

Under other circumstances than the above-mentioned, and even in places of considerable extent, the Kitchen-Garden is often combined with the Shrubbery or Pleasure-Garden, and also planted nearer to the house. There can be no impropriety in this, provided it be kept in good order, and that the walls be screened by shrubbery, from the immediate view of the public rooms. Indeed, it has been found, that there is both comfort and economy in having the various gardens of a place combined, and placed at no great distance from the house. In stepping from the parlor to the shrubbery of flower-garden, thence to the orchard, and, lastly, to the culinary garden, there is a gradation both natural and pleasant. With such an arrangement, in cases where the aspect of the ground is unfavorable, and the surface, perhaps, is considerably varied, few faults will found.

Sometimes we find the kitchen-garden placed immediately in front of the house, which we consider the most awkward situation of any; especially if placed near, and so that it cannot be properly screened by some sort of plantation. Generally speaking, the kitchen-garden should be placed to the rear, or in the flank of the house, by which the lawn may not be broken, and rendered unshapely where it is required to be most complete. The necessary traffic with this garden, if placed in front, is always offensive.

Descending to the consideration of more humble gardens, circumstances are so often arbitrary with respect to their situations, as that they cannot be placed either so as to please, or give satisfaction by their products. There are cases where the kitchen-garden is necessarily thrust into a corner, and perhaps is shaded by buildings, or by tall trees, from the sun and air; where they are placed on steep hangs, in a northern aspect; and in all cases where the subsoil is a till or a cold leaving gravel, and the site cold and bleak.

Such situations as these are to be avoided, and should be considered among the worst possible. Next are open, unsheltered plains. But even there, if the soil be tolerably good, and the subsoil be not particularly bad, shelter may be reared, so as that in a few years the garden may produce a return for the expense laid out in its improvement.

With respect to the situation of market-gardens, those in the vicinity of great towns must have more regard to soil and to local conveniences, than those at a distance need to have, who can choose, perhaps, a free situation, and a better aspect; such as we find many of the village-gardens, lying on sloping banks, by the sides of streams, that water and render those both pleasant and productive. He who has to pay a high rent should consider well before putting down and improving a garden, whether the situation be eligible, the distance from town convenient, and such as to enable him to carry his goods to market on a footing with his neighbors.—*Amer. Farmer.*

Juvenile Department.

Written for the Saturday Evening Post.
Stenographical Enigma.

TO THE YOUNG STENOGRAPHERS IN SCHOOL.

I am composed of 32 letters.

My 4, 17, 10, 8, 1, 16, 6 is a town in New Jersey
My 4, 5, 6, 6, 22, 8, 7, 6 is a town in Pennsylvania
My 11, 9, 4, 2, 7, 5 is a town in New York.
My 7, 22, 12, 13, 4, 20, 12, 7, 16 is a county in Virginia.
My 5, 6, 4, 20, 5 is a county in Ohio.
My 1, 19, 18, 16, is a town in Russia.
My 6, 16, 12, 13, 6 is a town in Ireland.
My 4, 1, 3, 4, 7, 22, is an island in the Ionian Sea
My 5, 7, 11, 23, 14, 20, is a mountain in Turkey in Asia
My 21, 20, 22, 3, 4, 7, is a town in Arabia.
My 20, 17, 12, 22, 1, is a town in Hindostan
My 6, 17, 22, 12, 16, is a river in Europe.
My 18, 7, 14, 24, is a sea in Asia.
My 5, 6, 20, 5, is a lake in China.
My 16, 5, 1, 4, 24, is a lake in Asia.
My 20, 9, 7, 2, 16, 4, 8, 12, is an island in the Pacific Ocean
My 20, 12, 1, 9, 16, is a town in Lorango.
My 8, 17, 8, 4, 20, is a city in Texas.
My 9, 2, 1, 20, 6, is a lake in Africa
My 19, 22, 20, 9, is a cape in Asia.
My 6, 9, 20, is a town in South America.
My 6, 4, 19, 1, 16, is a city in China.
My 8, 13, 16, 21, 22, is a river in North America.
My 1, 14, 6, 20, 20, 8, 22, is a bay in North America.
My 13, 5, 4, 13, 8, is a river in the United States.
My 8, 16, 6, is a cape in North America.
My 2, 1, 20, 6, is a town in Italy.
My 4, 3, 20, is an island in the bay of Biscay
My whole is the name of a town in Asia. An answer is requested.

M. E. C.

"Becky Morgan!" repeated David.

"Yes," replied the sexton; adding in a half compassionate, half irritable tone, which the old man couldn't hear, "you're getting very deaf, Davy, very deaf to be sure."

The old man stopped in his work, and closing his hands with a piece of slate he had by him for the purpose—and escaping off, in the process, the essence of Heaven knows how many Becky Morgans—set himself to consider the subject.

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